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University of Michigan - BUHR

BULETINZ
OF THE
SPELING REFORM
ASSOCIATION,
1877-1880.

PRESENTED TO

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OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

BY

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George Hemphill,
Saginaw.

Jan., 1880

paper was read by G. A. Walton, Westfield, on the method of teaching reading in primary schools. It advocated the word method, and gave rise to an interesting discussion. Prof. Butterfield expounded Bell's Visible Speech.

THE ILLINOIS State Teachers' Association met at Springfield, Dec. 26. Dr. Willard, of the Chicago High School read a paper on "How to Systematize English Orthography." It ought to be printed in our Bulletin. A discussion followed, and a committee on Spelling Reform was appointed, to report next year.

THE IOWA State Teachers' Association passed the following: *Resolved*, That we heartily approve the action of the Philological Association in asking of Congress a Commission to examine into the desirability of reform in English spelling.

THE MICHIGAN State Teachers' Association had the spelling reform brought before them by E. O. Vaile, editor of the *Educational Weekly*, Chicago.

IN INDIANA and WISCONSIN it was also up. It is said in the report to the Legislature of Wisconsin on the subject that "nearly 400 residents of Wisconsin, officers and professors in our colleges, and teachers in our public schools have united in a memorial to Congress asking the appointment of a National Committee."

As a specimen of the action of the County Institutes, we give the following: *Resolved*, That we (the teachers of the SCHUYLKILL COUNTY INSTITUTE, PA.,) endorse the last annual appeal of the American Philological Association to teachers, editors, and the intelligent public to make a beginning in the reform of dropping the useless *e* in the words *have*, *give*, and *live*.

THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY INSTITUTE, PA., passed in substance the resolution recommended in the Chicago Circular in favor of requesting our Legislatures, State and National, to appoint Commissions to investigate and report what can be done to simplify our spelling.

The Text-Book Commission of the State of Wisconsin made a report on spelling reform, Jan. 8, 1879. It is a comprehensive and impressive argument in favor of the reform, and of state action to promote it. It proposes that the Superintendent of Public Instruction be authorized to supply the schools of the state with a dictionary embodying an amended orthography in connection with the present approved orthography. The report was prepared by Senator George H. Paul, of Milwaukee, and is everywhere recognized as an able and important document. We are enabled by the kindness of friends to send a copy of it with this Bulletin to the members of the Association.

The Memorial now in circulation is not the first address to Congress. We have received a pamphlet containing such a Memorial from N. E. Dawson, of Burlington, Iowa, to the 45th Congress; and in it is a long quotation from a Memorial presented some years ago by a Western Congressman named Edmund Burke, which is so quoted as to have misled many intelligent persons to suppose it to have been presented to the Parliament of Great Britain by the great Edmund Burke.

The Illinois Industrial University bids fair to become the cradle of the Western spelling reform movement. Both faculty and students are joining in the good work in a manner well worthy of imitation by other institutions. "The I. I. U. Spelling Reform Association," organized during the last month, already numbers a large proportion of the students, and waxes stronger day by day. Its rules are, for the present, only the following five: 1. Use *e* for *ea* when equivalent to short *e*. 2. Omit silent *e* after a short vowel. 3. Use *f* for *ph*. 4. Omit one letter of a final double. 5. Use *t* instead of *ed* when it represents the sound,

ALFABET ØV THE SPELING REFORM ASSOQIASHUN.

Vauels.

Short.

I	i,	it.
E	e,	met.
A	a,	at.
Q	a,	ask (sè Dicshuneriz).
Ø	ø,	net, what.
O	o,	wholly (in Nü Ingland).
U	u,	but.
U	u,	full.

Long.

E	è=ī,	hè, poliç.
Q	a=ē,	potato, thēy, fare
	a,	fare (in Qmerica
	ū,	far.
	ō,	nōr, wall.
	ō,	nō, hōly.
	ū,	būrn.
	ū,	rūle, fool, muv.

Difthongz: I ī=ai, fīnd, faind. QU au, haus=house
OI oi, oil. Ū ü=iu, ūnit, mūzic, miuzic.

Cōnsonants.

Surd.

P	p,	pet.
T	t,	tēp.
CH	ch,	church.
C	c, ør k,	q, cake, cwit (quit).
F	f,	fit, filøsofer.
TH	th,	thin, pifthy.
S	s, ør ç,	so, çent.
SH	sh,	shē.
WH	wh,	which (in Ingland).
H	h,	hē.

Sonant.

B	b,	bet.
D	d,	did.
J	j, ør g,	jet, gem
G	g,	get.
V	v,	vat.
DH	th,	Dhē, thi
Z	z, ør z,	zone, iz.
ZH	zh,	fūzhun.
W	w,	wē.

L l, lo. R r, rat. Y y
yē. M m, mè. N n, nē
NG ng, ør ŋ, king, iŋk

Silabic: l, nobl, noblæ; m, spæm, spæmæ; n, tokn, toknæ

Nashunz hwich ūz thē Roman alfabet mak thē sar
leter stand før a shōrt vauel and its long, distingwish
ing thē tū when nēdful bi a diacritical mark. It i
intended tu ūz thē nū alfabet in this wa. In popūla
print, onli thē vauels givn æz shōrt, and è and æ, nēd t
ūæd. Sē ilustrashunz on thē necst pag.

SPECIMEN IN COMMON TYP.

By the phonetic alphabet a child may be taught the art of reading, not fluently but well, both in phonetic and in ordinary books, in three months—ay, often in twenty hours of thorough instruction;—a task which is rarely accomplished in three years of toil by the old alphabet. What father or teacher will not gladly hail and earnestly work for this great boon to education,—this powerful machine for the diffusion of knowledge.

S. R. A. Alfabet: 32 sounds distingwisht.

Webster's pronounciashun.

Bj the fonetic alfabet a child ma be tot the art ov reding, not flüentli but wel, both in fonetic and in ordineri bucs, in thre munths—ai, ofn in twenti aurs ov thuro instrucshun;—a tasc hwich iz rarli acomplisht in thre yers ov toil bj the old alfabet. Hwet fathur or techur wil not gladli hal and urnestli wurc for this grat bun tu educashun,—this pauurful mashien for the difuzhun ov noleg.

S. R. A. Alfabet: ol the sounds distingwisht.

Bj the fonetic alfabet a child ma be tot the art ov reding, not flüentli but wel, both in fonetic and in ordineri bucs, in thre munths—ai, ofn in twenti aurs ov thuro instrucshun;—a tasc hwich iz rarli acomplisht in thre yers ov toil bj the old alfabet. Hwet fathur or techur wil not gladli hal and urnestli wurc for this grat bun tu educashun,—this pauurful mashien for the difuzhun ov noleg.

Carful atenshun iz invited tu thez specimenz ov fonetic printing. It iz belevd that so clos a reezemblanc tu the ordineri printed pag can not be obtand bj eni uther fonetic alfabet that haz ever bin deviad. It iz therfor les ofensiv tu the rader than eni uther, and ma be cold

THE ALFABET OV LEST REZISTANC.

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George Hemphel,
Saginaw.

Jan. 4, 1886



Buletinz

OV THE

SPELING REFORM ASOSHIASHI

FROM 1877 TU 1880.

Prepārd and publiht under thē ōspisez ov thē Asoshiash
Publicashun Comiti, viz.: Prof. F. A. MARCH, LL.D.
ov Easton, Pa.; O. C. BLACKMER, A. M., ov
Chicōgo, Ills.; and MELVIL DŪI, A.M.,
ov Bēston, Mass.

Colected, complēted and baund bai
T. R. VICRŌI, A. M.,
Ceresponding Secreteri and Trezhurer.

ST. LUIS, MO.
1881.

P R E F E S .

Dhè Buletinz constituting dhis velyum wur publisht in diferent parts ev dhi cuntri, at diferent taimz and in diferent toips, and in thar form and mater or wel wurth prezurving, shoing, az dha du, dhè beginingz and progres ev dhè gratest ejuca-shunal reform ever inegyrated among dhè English spèking pèpl.

Twenti-faiv yèrz ago, wurc laic dhis wud hav bin simpli imposibl. Dhè reformerz ev dhat pèriod did a gud wurc and manifested a curej wurdhi ev mor manifest suceses. Dha paionèrd dhè wa, plast dhar aideal hai, sod dhè sèd in yunger maindz, and mad suceses in dhis jenerashun posibl. Ol onor tu dhè "Old Gard ev 1854 !"

But dhis jenerashun haz bin marcet fèr dhè difu-zhun ev filolejical nelej, dhè studi ev Anglo-Saxon and Sanscrit, and hens dhè men hu formerli opozd speling reform en etimolejical groundz, or non its

most devoted frendz. With dhar scolarli suj
and waiz direcshon, dhè amendment ev Ing
speleng upen an ecselelnt basis iz nau onli a m
ev taim. Dhè prevalent gud fèling among ol cl
ev reformerz, animated az dha ar, bai a dezai
seciur dhè best and handsomest dres for our
gwej, iz dhè promis ev a complèt and urli suc

Hwail dhè worc iz not az complèt az wè
wish, yet wè rejois dhat it haz bin dun so wel.

T. R. VICKRO

St. Luis, March, 1881.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE
ENGLISH ORTHOGRAPHY,

HELD AT THE
ATLAS HOTEL, PHILADELPHIA, PA.,

August 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 1876.

CONDENSED REPORT.

SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION,
FRANKLIN INSTITUTE, 15 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
18 Tremont Place, Boston. 33 Park Row, New York.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

FOR THE AMENDMENT OF

THE ENGLISH ORTHOGRAPHY.

This convention met pursuant to the following call :

In response to the earnest request of many persons, a Convention of Educators and others interested in the subject of a revision of our orthography, will be held at the Atlas Hotel, Elm avenue, near the Centennial Grounds, Philadelphia, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 14th to the 17th, inclusive.

The design of the Convention is to settle upon some satisfactory plan of labor, for the prosecution of the work so happily begun by the American Philological Association, and various other Educational Associations, in this country and England.

All friends of the movement, and educators generally are cordially invited.

PROF. GEO. P. BEARD, Philadelphia, Pa.
E. JONES, B. A., Liverpool, England.
PROF. E. V. DE GRAFF, Utica, N. Y.
PROF. D. B. HAGAR, Salem, Mass.
D. P. LINDSLEY, Philadelphia, Pa.

Committee of the Centennial National Institute
on Spelling Revision.

The above call is also endorsed by the following and many other persons :

PROF. F. A. MARCH, La Fayette College, Easton, Pa.,
Chairman of the Committee on Spelling of the American Philological Association.
HON. B. G. NORTHRUP, member of Connecticut Legislative Committee on Spelling, New Haven, Conn.
PROF. P. H. PHILBRICK, Iowa State University, Iowa.
MELVIL DEWEY, Amherst College, Mass.

PROF. T. C. MOFFATT, Wheaton College, Illinois.
D. H. ROBINSON, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan.
S. H. WHITE, Principal Normal School, West Newton,
Mass.
HON. B. F. BURNHAM, President Massachusetts Tachy-
graphic Society, South Boston, Mass.
D. P. HOLTON, M. D., Secretary American Philological So-
ciety, No. 19 Great Jones Street, New York.
MRS. E. B. BURNS, 33 Park Row, New York.
WELLINGTON WILCOX, Chairman Executive Committee,
Randolph Phonetic Association, Illinois.
D. C. JACOKES, Commissioner of Education from Michigan.
REV. JAMES W. SHEARER, Liberty Corner, N. J.
EDWARD AIKEN, M. D., Amherst, N. H.

The Educational Associations alluded to are these:

IN ENGLAND.—The Society of Arts; The Social Science Association; The London Philological Society; The College of Preceptors, and The National Union of Elementary Teachers.

IN THE UNITED STATES.—The American Philological Association; The American Philological Society; The Pennsylvania State Teachers Association; The Connecticut Legislature, and The National Educational Association.

Monday being spent in preliminary conferences the first public session of the Convention was opened Tuesday, Aug. 15, at 9 A. M., in the parlors of the Atlas Hotel, Philadelphia. The meeting was called to order by Prof. Geo. P. Beard, Director of the Centennial National Institute.

On nomination. S. S. Haldeman, LL. D., Professor of Comparative Philology in the University of Pennsylvania was chosen chairman and Melvil Dewey, of Amherst College, Secretary.

On taking the chair Prof. Haldeman remarked:—

The questions which the Convention is called to discuss, are of great importance. They have exercised strong minds of philosophers and philanthropists for a long time past. There are many difficulties in the way of a revision of our *orthography*—more than a superficial observer would suppose.

Upon what basis shall we build our system of spelling? Shall we find out the original powers of the letters so far as we can, and endeavor to bring the spelling in harmony with those powers? The question is not so much "How shall we spell this word?" as "What shall these combinations spell?" We must seek to bring our use of the letters into harmony with their use in other languages. Missionaries need this uniformity in the use of letters in their work. People will be looking at us, and to the results of this meeting, from a place spelt MAUI, and pronounced *mowse*, one of the Sandwich Islands. We cannot alter the spelling of *Maui*. On nearly the opposite side of the globe is another place where they are now learning English, and where the chief town is spelled MAULMAN—pronounced *Mowlmine*. People are looking at this question from Maui, on one side of the world, to Maulman, on the other side.

So these are very important questions. The American Philological Association has devoted considerable attention to them. Every President of this Association has called attention to them, and we have now eight propositions before us from this body. We desire, of course, a reform throughout, but we must be cautious in making changes.

The chairman had his attention called to this matter as early as 1851, when he had occasion to write Indian languages.

In introducing the regular order of business, prayer was offered by Rev. James W. Shearer of New Jersey.

On motion of Prof Beard,

D. P. Lindsley, Joseph A. Allen and J. W. Shearer were appointed a committee on nominations.

Francis A. March, Professor of Anglo-Saxon and English Literature at Lafayette College, was introduced and delivered the opening address. [See Bulletin No. 5, p. 4].

On motion of Prof. Beard, the address of Prof. March was ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Linsley it was

Resolved, That the Report on Spelling adopted by the American Philological Association, at its last annual meeting, be adopted as the sentiments of this convention; and that it form the basis of our discussions and work.

The report of the American Philological Association was read as follows: [See Bulletin No. 2, p. 5.]

Mr. E. Jones, of England, was introduced and made a short address. He alluded to the remarkable facility with which the Welsh people learn to read their native language—acquiring it in Sunday-school with one hour's unpaid instruction a week; and all this because of its phonetic orthography. At the request of the chairman he pronounced the Lord's Prayer in Welsh.

At the close of Mr. Jones' address the secretary read several letters from persons interested in the convention; and on motion was instructed to select from the correspondence for publication. The following extracts were made:

From Henry E. Shepherd, Supt. of Public Instruction, Baltimore, Md.

AUGUST 14th, 1876.

Accept my grateful acknowledgments for your kind invitation to attend the International Convention which meets to-day, as well as my sincere regrets that I am unable to accept it. I do heartily sympathize with the objects contemplated by the Convention, and look forward with earnest longing to the time when we shall be delivered from the bondage of our irrational orthography.

To E. Jones, B. A., Philadelphia.

From Hon. B. G. Northrup, Secretary of the Board of Education, New Haven, Conn.

AUGUST 11, 1876.

I am sorry I am pre-engaged on the days of your meeting next week. On the 21st inst I am to take one hundred and twenty Chinese students to the Centennial. Their work would be greatly facilitated if they could learn the English language phonetically.

From Prof Wesley C. Sawyer, Chairman Spelling Reform Committee of the National Educational Ass'n, Lawrence University, Appleton, Wis.

JULY 31, 1876.

To Prof. Beard, from Harvard, Mass.

By the favor of Mr. E. Jones of Liverpool, England, I am of the contemplated meeting at the Atlas Hotel, to con-

sider how best to give effect to the admirable resolutions adopted by the Philological Association of New York on Spelling Reform. I probably shall be unable to attend the meeting, but my interest in its object is very great, and I cheerfully add my name to the Call.

Under any less wise leading than that of Prof. March I should have some fear that some imprudence at the convention might bring ridicule or opposition upon our cause.

Great skill and prudence are necessary in order to direct the course of this reform, and I think I may add that it is far less important that we should inaugurate our reform speedily, than that we should make it as thorough as possible.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL, SALEM MASS., JULY 25, 1875.

D. P. Lindsley, Esq.

My Dear Sir :—Your favor has reached me to-day. I regret that it will be out of my power to attend the convention to which you refer. My business will keep me at home.

I most earnestly hope that an advance movement will be made in the spelling reform. If I could have my own way in the matter, I should establish a complete phonetic alphabet. If that shall be deemed by the friends of reform impracticable, then I favor some such plan as Mrs. Burns has devised. If we cannot have a downright perfect alphabet, with only one character for a sound and one sound for a character, let us come as near as we can, by agreeing upon one letter or combination of letters for each sound, and give but one sound to each letter or combination of letters. That done spelling becomes easy, and elementary reading is vastly simplified.

Wishing the friends of spelling reform abundant success in their efforts,

I remain yours truly,

D. P. HAGAR.

From S. V. Blakesly, an editor 21 years of the "Pacific," San Francisco.

OAKLAND, CAL., AUGUST 4, 1866.

To Prof. Beard;

With more than pleasure, with the lively sense of privileged duty, I express my warm sympathy with you, and your fellow members of the Educational Convention, in the object for which you have come together.

An improvement of our English orthography, will enable vast hosts of the ignorant to read our books and periodicals, and immensely facilitate the acquisition of our language by foreigners, and, without an item of injury to our litera-

ture, will also contribute to the intellectual advantages of all our people.

No subject in science or art has come before the world for the last fifty years, of greater importance in my judgment, than that which has brought you together. I speak sincere convictions, which have been steadily strengthening through over twenty-five years of experience in active labor on the Pacific coast. I am sure that the changes you propose in correcting and systematising the spelling of the English language would enable any one of the eight millions of illiterate persons in our country to learn to read with ease and enjoyment in twelve days study. Our foreign resident population would learn to pronounce correctly. And millions of foreigners on the continent of Europe and in other portions of the world would have such a means of learning to speak our language with tolerable correctness that the use of our language, and the reading of our books would be vastly more general over the world. This would open to the nations the great treasures of knowledge stored up in our books, of information which would immensely increase the influence of our Christianity, our civil liberty, our moral civilization, and our commercial enterprises.

Its benefits to the poor blacks of our country are beyond all calculation; while its usefulness in California in enabling our Babel of a population to understand and speak the same language, and assimilate into one people, no one can estimate. . . I give you my heartiest sympathies, and most earnest hope for complete success.

Other communications were received from Prof. P. H. Philbrick, of the Iowa State University, W. Geo. Waring, Tyrone, Pa., S. L. Stilson, Brooklyn, N. Y., and more elaborate papers from J. Colver Wightman of Taunton, Mass., and Prof. T. C. Moffatt, of Wheaton College, Ill.

Mr. Wightman's paper treats of

THE ENLARGEMENT OF OUR ALPHABET,

and enters into the philosophy of the subject. We give a few brief extracts.

It is far easier to introduce new characters than to reclaim old ones from abuse. . . No reformation can become successful which does not give a fair remuneration to all classes.

It must reward authors by greater ease of writing to pay them for the trouble of again learning to write. It must reward readers by making reading easier, and affording more matter for the same money. It must reward publishers by opening before them an illimitable career of publishing improved editions, for a sure market. It must reward type foundry by creating a demand for new patterns, and multiplying orders for special founts. Capital must be enticed to enlist in the service of reform, and find its largest profit in the most complete success of the improvement. . . . If variations in the type similar to those which fancy and caprice now dictate for ornament, could be made useful by working into them significance, thus enlarging our present scanty alphabetical resources, the immense capital which now confronts all improvement, might thereby be subsidized to serve in the work of literary reform.

The remainder of the paper treats principally of the Palatal Sibilant, and its proper representation.

Prof. Moffatt's paper is on

THE TRUE AIM, IMMEDIATE AND ULTIMATE, OF A MOVEMENT FOR REFORM IN SPELLING OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

After treating of the causes that have operated in bringing our orthography to its present state of confusion, viz.: the addition of new elements of speech, and phonetic decay, the paper advocates earnestly the "European System of Orthography" in its application to English. The writer continues :

There are none who have greater need of patience, perseverance and industry than spelling reformers. Language is a republic, in which though one man may have a thousand times as much influence as another, each has his voice in whatever is done. No man can claim the right to set himself up as a dictator, nor will his authority be long heeded if he does. No change, by whomsoever proposed, can be effected, but by the will of the majority. On the other hand, any change in which they either consciously or unconsciously agree, however violent, unreasonable or vulgar it may seem to the purest, becomes the law of the language. To convince this majority of what, plain as the case may be to those who have studied it, they are not unconvinced, is the long laborious task to which the spelling reformer must set himself. To accomplish this every means in his power should be employed. Private conversation and public lectures may do something

The press should be utilized to the full extent. . . Especially should the teachers of our country be taught correct principles of orthography, that they may cease making prejudice of the old perverse and utterly unscientific spelling, and give their great influence on the side of a new, scientific and accurate system. Happily the old method is sustained by prejudice and custom, and the truth plainly and perseveringly advanced can scarcely fail to secure some result worthy of the endeavor, and of incalculable value to all who have to do with the language.

On motion, Melvill Dewey, Hon. B. F. Burnham, and Rev. J. W. Shearer were appointed a committee to provide popular addresses and other entertainments through the sessions of the convention.

On motion, Profs. March, Haldeman, Jones, Nelson and Raddatz were elected a committee on resolutions, with power to appoint sub-committees.

On motion, Messrs. Duane, Newel, Lindsley and Wilcox were appointed a committee to report at the evening session a plan for the uniform omission of useless letters.

Short addresses followed, by Messrs Duane, of Philadelphia, Prof. C. K. Nelson, of Annapolis, Maryland; Mr. J. B. Towe, of Norfolk, Virginia; Hon. B. F. Burnham, of South Boston, Mass.; Rev. W. S. Robertson, Missionary to the Creek Nation, Indian Territory; Dr. H. L. Wayland, of the National Baptist, Philadelphia; J. B. Smith and Prof. W. H. Parker.

Mr. Duane said he had been for twenty years an advocate of phonetic spelling; and illustrated the changes demanded by spelling *F-i-l-a-d-e-l-f-i-a*, *H-e-v-e-n*, &c., and advocating the omission of useless letters, and the change of those irregularly used.

Prof. Nelson alluded to the different sounds that are given to the vowel letters, and criticised the modern pronunciation of *a* and *e*, preferring the broader and manlier sounds of the Latin and Italian. In regard to spelling we have gone backward. The old authors, Chaucer, Spencer, and Shakespeare spelled better than we do.

He wished to make an apology. He had heard the chairman frequently allude to the subject of a reformed orthography, and thought it all nonsense; but he had come to view the matter in a different light, and was persuaded that a revision of our spelling was a matter of great importance, and a pressing necessity.

Mr. Towe (colored) spoke for his race, and of the great work to be done in educating the colored people of the South. They spell naturally, in the simplest manner, and cannot be persuaded that silent letters have any use. They spell *frend*, *fotograf*, &c., and will not use the irregular forms of our present spelling. It would be greatly to their advantage to have a revised system of spelling. It would greatly add to the facilities of education, which the colored people need so much.

Hon. Mr. Burnham spoke at considerable length of the importance of a new orthography, and gave an amusing illustration of the irregularities of our present spelling. A boy who had kept his seat at the foot of the class for a long time, and had observed that the worst way in which a word could be spelt was the most likely to be successful, endeavored to make up for previous failures by spelling ghost, g-h-o-g-h-j-s-t *gost*. This bringing upon him shouts of laughter, he said, with clenched fist and tearful eyes, "You need not laugh, I have heard you all spell homelier than that."

Rev. Mr. Robertson spoke of the advantages that would result from a revised orthography, in missionary work. The Creek Indians learn more during one day's teaching on Sunday, by the aid of their phonetic alphabet, than our children do during the rest of the week in English spelling. A pupil has been known to write a letter to thank his instructor for teaching him to read on the first day of his taking up the alphabet. They have only sixteen letters to learn.

On request, Mr. Robertson gave a specimen of the Creek language in a brief recitation.

Rev. Mr. Wayland congratulated the convention on ac-

On motion of Judge Burnham, the chair appointed Judge Burnham and Miss Ida Parkhurst to report a popular declaration in favor of a revised orthography.

The convention then resolved itself into two committees of the whole, for discussing the completion of the alphabet with and without new letters. The entire morning was occupied in earnest discussion before the committees, all the active members of the convention taking part with one or the other. At 12 M. the committees rose and reported progress.

Judge Burnham reported for the committee on a declaration, and his report was referred to the committee on resolutions; after which a recess was taken until 1.30 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The first hour of the afternoon was occupied by continued work in the two committees,—on the completion of the alphabet, with, and without new letters.

At 2.45 P.M., the convention was called to order.

Mr. Parker reported for the committee on the completion of the alphabet by adding new letters, as follows:—

The committee on new letters for the phonetic alphabet, report the following scheme of letters, inserting the present letters, with settled powers in their place with the new letters proposed.

The committee desire, not so much to represent all the nice shades of sounds which might be recognized in words, wherein a vowel might be modified by accompanying letters, such as *r* or *l*, but the sounds generally used. They arrange the vowel letters, so far as they deem advisable, in pairs, short and long, and propose that the long shall be formed from the short by a slight modification, for instance, an added stroke, or an indentation, and use the old forms for short letters. The committee offer only the lower-case or small letters; and recommend that the capitals be made similar to them, as far as practicable, differing in size, and perhaps, having a fuller face on the same body of type when newly cast.

The script forms for the new letters were not attempted for the present.

VOWELS.

SHORT.

i	as in	<i>pin, ill.</i>
e	"	<i>met.</i>
a	"	<i>fat.</i>
æ	"	<i>ask, America.</i>
ɒ	"	<i>not.</i>
o	"	<i>obey.</i>
ə	"	<i>butter, dollar, fir, odor,</i> <i>fur, satyr, earth.</i>
u	"	<i>pull.</i>

LONG.

y	as in	<i>feel, marine.</i>
a	"	<i>mate, they.</i>
ɑ	"	<i>arm, alms, father.</i>
ɑ	"	<i>fall, naught.</i>
o	"	<i>no, know.</i>
u	"	<i>pool.</i>

For the diphthongal sounds, as in *pine, oil, out* and *use*, the committee propose no new letters. The elements to be used, or Pitman's letters as preferred.

y or an i-form, as in *yell.* w or a u-form, as in *well.*

CONSONANTS.

p	as in	<i>pie, deep.</i>
"	"	<i>fin, at.</i>
t	"	<i>cheek, each.</i>
c, k	"	<i>kit, come, oak.</i>
f	"	<i>foe, if.</i>
θ	"	<i>thin, oath.</i>
s	"	<i>sow, dress.</i>
ʃ	"	<i>shine, wish,</i>
h	"	<i>hit.</i>
l	"	<i>low, all.</i>
r	"	<i>row, are.</i>

b	as in	<i>be rob.</i>
d	"	<i>do, bid.</i>
g	"	<i>gem, age.</i>
g	"	<i>go.</i>
v	"	<i>vow, live.</i>
ð	"	<i>thou, with.</i>
z, a	"	<i>zouave, rose.</i>
ʒ	"	<i>azure.</i>
m	"	<i>me, am.</i>
n	"	<i>no, one.</i>
ŋ	"	<i>sing.</i>

It will be seen that but two forms not now in use in Phototypy are presented. The whole number presented is 38. Two might be omitted, and the number might be farther reduced.

On motion it was

Resolved, That capital and script forms of the letters should be made to correspond as closely as practicable with the printed forms of the small letters.

Mr. Lindsley reported progress for the committee on permanent organization with a request that Mr. Dewey be added to the committee.

On motion it was ordered that a part of the report of convention be printed in the new letters.

Messrs. Shearer and Wilcox, and Mrs. Burns were pointed a committee to report on the nicer shades of sound in the language.

Mr. Parkhurst and Mrs. Burns were appointed to report on the names of the letters of the alphabet.

The convention then took up the report of the committee on spelling without new letters.

PHONETIC ALPHABET WITHOUT NEW LETTERS. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The committee have considered phonetic alphabets without new letters, drawn up by the following persons independently of each other :—

FROM ENGLAND.—A. J. Ellis, Isaac Pitman, W. Skeat, E. Jones.

FROM THE UNITED STATES—Eliza B. Burns, D. P. Lillie, Rev. J. W. Shearer.

NUMBER OF SOUNDS.

The highest number of sounds for which separate symbols are provided in these schemes is 44, the lowest 40.

In Mr. Ellis's Glossic the primary object is to indicate local and individual peculiarities. Its use for educational and popular purposes is secondary merely. All the other schemes intend to indicate the accepted pronunciation of words, according to existing standards, without attempting to express the minute shades of sound.

In all these schemes there is absolute agreement that the following letters should invariably represent these sounds and that these sounds should have only this one symbol.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. a, ask. | 8. h, hen. |
| 2. aa, bazaar. | 9. i, in. |
| 3. ch, chip. | 10. j, jug. |
| 4. d, dog. | 11. l, lot. |
| 5. e, met. | 12. m, man. |
| 6. f, fan. | 13. n, not. |
| 7. g, go. | 14. oo, ooze. |

15. p, *pen*.
16. r, *run*.
17. s, *sun*.
18. t, *ten*.
19. z, *zeal*.

To which may be added
 20. ng, *sing*.
 21. sh, *ship*,
 If expressed by digraphs.

There is further agreement in all the schemes, in using the following as one symbol for the sound indicated, while some of the schemes admit of a second or third symbol under certain conditions, for the same sound, or use the letter in another sense in combination with other letters.

1. ai, *nail*.
2. au, *august*,
3. c, *cat*.
4. ee, *eel*.
5. ie, *pie*.
6. oi, *oil*.

7. ou, *out*.
8. oe, *foe*.
9. w, *way*,
10. y, *yard*,
11. ng, *sing*,
12. sh, *ship*.

Burns, Lindsley, Shearer and Jones further agree in using both *c* and *k* for the hard guttural in defined positions; in using *th* for the vocal in *them*, and the same letter with a brace for the sound in *thin*. Pitman and Ellis use *k* uniformly for the *k*-sound; and Ellis uses *dh* in *then*, and *th* in *thin*.

As a temporary concession to custom, Pitman and Lindsley use the following additional digraphs:

For long a; *ay*, may; *a-e*, made; *a*, labor.

For long e; *e-e*, mete; *e*, fever.

For long i; *i e*, tide; *i*, fiber, *y*, my.

For long o; *o e*, rose; *o-a*, boat; *o*, folio.

For long u; *u-e*, rule; *u*, fury; *ew*, new; *eu*, Europe.

Without expressing any opinion as to the merit of these schemes, or attempting to indicate what shape the reform of spelling may ultimately assume, the committee cannot but feel grateful for the degree of uniformity so far attained, and believe that the schemes, imperfect as they are, provide a basis for discussion, and for experiment with a view to the breaking down of prejudice and preparing the way, for the adoption, under the sanction of the Philological Association, and the various state legislatures, of some improved system of spelling which may be used in public documents, and by the people generally.

Voted, that the orthography of the opening address be referred to Prof. March. That Mr. Jones' remarks be printed

in the Jones-Burns alphabet ; that some specimens be given in the new letters reported by the committee on new letters ; and that the body of the proceedings be printed in the semi-phonotypy of Mr. Isaac Pitman, following the alphabet of Mr. Jones and Mrs. Burns in the use of digraphs for the long vowels, where such digraphs are necessary, and that the editor be allowed to make such modifications of this combined scheme as may seem expedient in special cases, but only such as tend to bring the spelling nearer to the present standards.

A recess was taken till 8. P. M.

• EVENING SESSION.

The convention was called to order at 8 o'clock. A letter from Prof. W. D. Whitney, of Yale College, was read, and ordered to be incorporated in the report of the convention.

PROF. WHITNEY'S LETTER.

LAKE PLACID, NORTH ELBA, ESSEX CO., N., Y.
August 12, 1876.

Prof. G. P. Beard :

DEAR SIR:—The date of this letter will be sufficient to show you that I am unable to accept your polite invitation to the Philadelphia meeting on the reform of English orthography. I fear that, even if present, I should be of no particular service. My interest in the general cause I have variously testified. I have especially felt called upon as a historical student of language, and of modes of writing, to protest in the name of sound science as well of common sense, against the worthless arguments popularly brought forward in opposition to a changed and consistent spelling of English, and to demonstrate their worthlessness. That scholars and men of enlightenment should come to hold the true opinion on this subject has seemed to me a necessary preliminary to a reform movement. So far as Americans are concerned this end appears now to be pretty fully attained ; certainly there are few in our community deserving the name of scholar who do not confess that a "historical" spelling is in principle indefensible, that it has no support save our customs and prejudices.

When it comes, however, to the practical question of a new orthographic method, the difficulty becomes of another sort and vastly greater, and I have no positive proposal to

bring forward ; indeed, I hardly feel justified even in making a suggestion. Whatever is done at present, it seems to me, is by way of experiment, and provisional. Probably no one knows or can know what turn the movement will take when (or if) it begins to achieve decided success. That will appear in the course of time ; and only time can show it. I have been sometimes tempted to say that I should not think the progress made of much account until we could agitate for the true ("Continental" or "Italian") representation of the vowel sounds, but that would be perhaps unreasonable, although I look upon the point as one of prime ultimate importance. A beginning anywhere, or of any kind, is what is most wanted. Break down the false sacredness of the present modes of spelling, accustom people not to shiver when they see familiar words "misspelt," and something good will be the final result. Every great and important revolution involves a period of anarchy ; this is what the conservative dreads ; few have the courage to look across it to the era of better things that is to follow.

Yours very respectfully,

W. D. WHITNEY.

Mr. Ch. Raddatz, Professor of German and History in Baltimore College, Md., delivered an address on orthographic reform in Germany, and at the request of the convention furnished the following brief summary :

Among reforms proposed by the conference, called together by the German Government in last January, to improve and establish greater uniformity in German orthography, are the following principal points.

1. To restrict the use of capital letters. The habit of employing capital initials has grown since the 16th century to a perfect mania, as every German scholar knows. Thus, in verbal expressions like "to keep house," "it took place," etc., we find the words *house* and *place* spelled with a capital, when in reality they could not be parsed as substantive in such combinations. The conference concluded that substantives are to be written with small initials when they take the meaning of other classes of words.

2. *The Indications of a long Vowel.*—The German language denotes the vowel of a syllable as long in three different ways. It either doubles the vowel, places an *e* after it (only with the vowel *i*), or insert a mute *h*. The greatest inconsistency, however, prevails in the use of this last means ; for we see the *h* inserted in a syllable already sufficiently

marked as long by a diphthong, doubled vowel, etc., and then in most cases in the wrong position, namely, before the vowel instead of after it. We have it even in decidedly short syllables. Further, we find words pronounced exactly alike, with this inorganic *h* in the one and not at all in the other, which is certainly a puzzle to foreigners who wish to learn German, and tends to make it more difficult for them to master it.

In view of these anomalies, and in order to bring about greater uniformity in this regard, the conference resolved to denote a long vowel only in the case of *i* and *e*, the vowels of *a*, *o* and *u* being generally long unless followed by a double consonant, need no indication to that effect.

3. *The Gradual Introduction of the Antique.*—When the teutonic ancestors of the Germans gave up the *Runes*, they took the Latin letters; and during the middle ages used nothing else. The so-called German letter is nothing but the Latin changed and corrupted by the scribes of the 13th and 14th centuries, and the greatest masters of German grammar have long ago advocated a return to the unquestionably more beautiful and simple Latin type. Jacob Grimm says: The needless retaining of our type has great disadvantages. It obliges schools to double the number of their alphabets. Every child must learn eight signs instead of one. It forces German printing establishments to provide themselves with a double supply of Latin and German type. It hinders the spread of German books abroad, and is repugnant to all strangers.

The conference recommended a gradual change from the German to the Latin letters, used by all leading nations, and advised their practice in the primary schools to the same degree as the German; besides that the use of Latin letters instead of the German at the High Schools of the empire be granted to all pupils.

Prof. March delivered an address on the study of the English language, which was followed by remarks on the German language by Dr. C. K. Nelson, and Prof. Raddatz. Prof. K. M. Thorden, of the University of Upsala, Sweden, gave an address on the reforms in the Swedish orthography and language, with illustrations.

Prof. Thorden explained the practicability of a reform in spelling as illustrated in Sweden, and called attention to the orthography used for certain words like *filosofy*,

&c. The question was raised as to how he would spell *Philadelphia*, to which Dr. T'orden replied: Why certainly, *F-i-l-a-d-e-l-f-i-a*; and added with much earnestness, "Until I came to your country, I never spelled it in the way you spell it here, and when I go back to my University, I shall never spell it so again."*

Dr. Atkinson, of Amsterdam, Holland, also addressed the Convention, giving illustrations of orthography in a dozen different languages.

Adjourned to Thursday morning, at 8:30.

THURSDAY, AUG. 17. MORNING SESSION.

The convention was called to order by the President. Mr. Parkhurst reported for the committee on the names of the letters of the alphabet.

(For this report see supplementary report on new letters with specimens.)

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the committee on phonotypic illustrations be instructed to prepare a printed report of specimens of the different suggested alphabets, and modes of spelling—the said specimens to consist of twelve lines each, beginning with the alphabet devised by this convention, with different numbers of vowels, and with the different forms of letters where an option is given in the alphabet; and followed by such other alphabets, and modes of spelling as they deem it advisable to present for comparison. And that copies of the said report be submitted to the American Philological Association, on behalf of this convention.

On motion of Mr. Jones, it was recommended

That, with a view to give effect to resolution number *six* of the American Philological Association, all phoneticians and others be urged to use in their correspondence, in business circulars, and any other printed matter over which they

* NOTE.—Many questions were asked and answered after the meeting had adjourned, and the address was considered by those who heard it as telling very strongly in favor of the reform. Unfortunately it was impossible for the secretary to secure the full address, for publication in the proceedings, and the abstract, which would otherwise have been made, is also wanting.

may have control, any one of the schemes submitted to the convention which they may refer; and that letter paper, with brief directions, be prepared for this purpose, this being regarded as merely provisional, and in no way intended to prejudice the final result.

Mr. Dewey reported for the committee on permanent organization.

Mr. Lindsley was called to the chair, and the proposed Constitution and By-Laws were acted on by sections, and after discussion and some slight amendments they were adopted.

The Constitution and By-Laws will be given in the first Bulletin of the Association.

The secretary read a letter from Mr. L. F. Whitehead, of Nebraska, recommending an attempt to procure legislative action in favor of phonetic printing of public documents.

Mr. Jones offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the executive committee, at their discretion, open correspondence with the friends of spelling reform in England, in regard to calling a convention on the subject at London, at an early date.

Mr. Parker offered the following resolution, which, after discussion, and slight amendment, was adopted:

Resolved, That the arrangement of the new alphabet in the publication of the proceedings be as follows:

1. Vowels in pairs, short and long, beginning with *i* and ending with *u*.

2. *h, l, r, m, n, ng.*

Consonants in pairs.

Mrs. Burns introduced, with remarks, this resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this convention recognize the good effects of the phonetic training of teachers and children in the public schools, produced by the use of Dr. Edwin Leigh's school books in modified type, which have been wholly used in the primary schools of St. Louis, Mo., for the past ten

years, and extensively in New York, Boston, Chicago and other cities; and that it fully appreciates the work done by Messrs. Leigh, Pitman, Longley, Prosser and others, in the publication of phonetic school-books, as having largely prepared the way for reform in English spelling.

On motion of Mr. Jones, Profs. Raddatz and Thorden were requested to furnish the secretary with summaries of their interesting addresses for publication.

On motion of Prof. March, it was

Resolved, That this convention has listened with great interest to the facts presented by J. B. Towe, of Virginia, in regard to the impossibility of teaching his brother freedmen the present English spelling; and to his appeal on their behalf. And also to the facts and appeal of S. V. Blakesly, of California, in regard to and on behalf of the pagan populations among whom he is laboring as a Christian missionary; and that we earnestly commend this matter to the attention of all who have at heart the perpetuity of our institutions, and the progress of Christianity; and especially to the Bible and Tract Societies, and Freedman's Aid Societies, whose duty it is to use the press wisely for these vital ends, and that we urge the speedy publication in English, of the Bible and other good books in a reformed spelling.

On motion, the chair appointed Messrs. Raddatz, Parker and Nelson, to nominate officers for a permanent organization.

This committee reported a list of officers, which were duly elected as follows:

President, Prof. F. A. March, Lafayette College, Easton, Pa.

Vice Presidents. S. S. Haldeman, L.L.D., of the University of Pennsylvania, Chickies, Pa. E. Jones, B.A., 35 Newstead Road, Liverpool, England. Hon. William T. Harris, Supt. of Public Schools, St. Louis, Mo. Prof. W. D. Whitney, Yale College, New Haven, Conn. Dr. C. K. Nelson, Annapolis, Md. Mrs. E. B. Burns, 33 Park Row, New York.

Recording Secretary, Melvil Dewey, 13 Tremont Place, Boston.

Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, D. P. Lindsley, Fernwood, Pa.

Finance Committee, Joseph A. Allen and James T. Allen, of West Newton, Mass., and Mary Burk, Syracuse, N. Y.

Membership Committee, W. Henry Parker, 2024 Mervine Street, Philadelphia, Pa., S. V. Blakesley, Oakland, California, Wesley C. Sawyer, Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin. W. Geo. Waring, Tyrone, Pa. D. B. Hagar, State Normal School, Salem, Mass. David P. Holton, 19 Great Jones Street, N. Y.

On motion, Mr. Wellington Wilcox, Marissa, Ills., was added to the membership committee.

On the motion of Mr. Dewey, the convention voted to resolve itself into the Spelling Reform Association.

After closing remarks by the president, Dr. Haldeman, the president of the new Association, Prof. March, was escorted to the chair.

SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION

AFTERNOON SESSION. THURSDAY, AUGUST 17.

The Association was called to order at 2 o'clock by the President, Prof. March.

On motion of Mr. Dewey it was

Resolved, That another meeting of the Association be held Oct. 10th. at the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, Pa.

Messrs. Haldeman, Dewey and Parker were appointed a committee to prepare a programme for that meeting.

On motion Dr. Nelson, Mrs. Burns and Mrs. Thomas Varney, of Oakland, Cal., were appointed a committee to report local committees for the principal cities.

Messrs. D. S. Holman, of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, and Hon. B. F. Burnham, Municipal Court House, South Boston, Mass., were added to the membership committee.

Mr. D. P. Lindsley was appointed a standing committee on printing.

Messrs. Dewey, March and Haldeman were appointed a committee to prepare leaflets, letter-heads, slips for insertion in letters &c., for the use of those who wish to employ the new spelling in their correspondence.

On motion of Dr. Nelson, a committee of three was appointed to wait on the religious publication societies and urge the adoption of the revised orthography in their publications. Dr. Nelson, Mr. Jones, and Mrs. Burns were ap-

pointed such committee, and on motion, Profs. March and Parker were added to the committee.

Dr. Nelson reported the following list of local committees.

ST. LOUIS—Nannie C. Lynn, Wm. T. Harris.

WORCESTER, MASS.—Anna C. Wyman, Martha P. Wyman.

BOSTON—Charles H. Aimes, Hon. B. F. Burnham, Samuel R. Kelley, S. M. Chase, Nellie Hutchins, Amy Hutchins, Augusta Randall, Emile H. Maxwell, Byron A. Pollard.

NEW YORK—Miss W. J. Randall.

PHILADELPHIA—Henry Whitall, L. L. Dean, Rev. D. S. Parulee, Mrs. Ophelia Forward, M. Josephine Warren.

CONCORD, N. H.—John L. Stanley, Hilton M. Webster, Laura Carter.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.—S. V. Blakesley, Prof. Bolander, Miss Katy Kenada, Miss Laura Fowler, Prof. Knowlton, John Le Conte, M.D., President State University.

OAKLAND, CAL.—Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Thomas Varney.

SANTA BARBARA, CAL.—Dr. Ord.

PETALUMA, CAL.—Freeman Parker.

SAN JOSE, CAL.—Chas. H. Allen, A.M., Principal State Normal School.

COLUMBIA, S. C.—M. A. Warren, Principal State Normal School.

NORFOLK, VA.—N. B. Webster, Principal Webster Institute; J. B. Towe, Teacher.

BALTIMORE, MD.—Profs. Gilman, Elliot, Newell, Wardenburg, J. S. Gannet, Henry E. Shepherd, Ch. Raddatz.

On motion, the publication committee in New York were authorized to add names to the local committees.

The following names were added :

AMHERST, N. H.—Dr. Edward Aiken.

AMHERST, MASS.—H. D. Maxson, Geo. W. Stearns.

ACCOTINE, FAIRFAX, CO., VA.—Col. E. Daniels.

ATLANTA, GA.—Phil. Halcom.

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.—Wm. Nichols.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—H. C. Buckner, 884 Pacific street.

BURLINGTON, IOWA.—Noble E. Dawson.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.—Arthur Gilman, A.M.

CINCINNATI, OHIO.—Charles C. Carpenter.

CHARLESTON, S. C.—Daniel Horlbeck.
 CHICAGO, ILL.—D. Kimball, 87, East Washington street.
 COLUMBUS, OHIO.—J. H. Sampson.
 CHILICOTHE, OHIO.—W. T. Bonner.
 CLARENDON, ORLEANS Co., N. Y.—E. V. Saulsbury.
 DALLAS, TEXAS.—A. R. Malone.
 DUBUQUE, IOWA.—Asa Horr.
 FAIR HAVEN, VT.—Otis S. Johnson.
 GAMBIER, OHIO.—Eli T. Tapan.
 GLENNVILLE, GILMER Co., WEST VA.—F. M. Marshall.
 GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.—S. G. Milner.
 GREENCASTLE, IND.—Prof. Redpath, Ashbury University.
 HEBRON, NEB.—W. D. Vermilion, Principal High School.
 JERSEY SHORE, N. J.—Prof. Geo. P. Beard, Principal
 National Institute.
 INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—W. A. Bell, Editor School Journal.
 IOWA CITY.—Prof. P. H. Philbrick, Iowa State University.
 KIRKSVILLE, MO.—J. Baldwin, Principal Normal School.
 KIRKSVILLE, MO.—C. H. Dutcher.
 LAFAYETTE, IND.—John Hussey, Purdue University.
 LAKE CITY, MINN.—R. M. Chevelin.
 LEBANON, OHIO.—Prof. Chas. S. Royce, National Normal
 School.
 LORETO, PA.—Rev. Charles R. Doherty, St. Francis
 College.
 MILLERSVILLE, PA.—Prof. Edward Brooks, Normal Col-
 lege.
 MILWAUKEE, WIS.—Harry Smith.
 MOBILE, ALA.—John W. Wallace.
 MONTICELLO, IOWA.—Miss M. J. Smith.
 MOUNT UNION COLLEGE, OHIO.—Prof. C. F. Stokey.
 NASHVILLE, TENN.—J. W. Dolbeare.
 NEW HAVEN, CONN.—Hon. B. G. Northrop.
 NORWICH, CONN.—Alfred S. Childs.
 PEIRCE CITY, MO.—J. S. McLean.
 SALEM, OHIO.—W. D. Henkle.
 ST. LOUIS, MO.—H. Cooper.
 SANDUSKY, OHIO.—A. C. Fischer.
 SEAFORD, DEL.—H. C. Morgan, First National Bank.
 SO. HAVEN, MICH.—A. J. Pierce.
 TAUNTON, MASS.—E. U. Jones, M.D.
 TERRE HAUTE, IND.—R. C. Carlton.
 TRENTON, N. J.—Wm. B. Allen, Supt. of Public Schools.
 WASHINGTON, D. C.—Geo. M. Wood, Treasury Depart-
 ment.

WASHINGTON, IOWA.—D. W. Lewis, Teacher.

WAYMART, WAYNE CO., PA.—C. J. Cooper.

WHEATON, ILL.—Prof. T. C. Moffatt.

WYANDOTTE, KAN.—R. B. Taylor, Editor Gazette.

Mrs. Burns reported for the committee on shade sounds.

That, for the purpose of representing the more delicate varieties of sound recognized by trained and careful speakers, and which are noted in educational works, it is desirable to have supplementary characters for the sounds of *a* in "fair," *e* in "mercy," and *u* in "turn."

In the opinion of some members of the Association, the characters assigned to the vowels in *bat* and *no* may be dispensed with, and those assigned to the sounds in *ask* and *obey* used instead.

Also, that the coalescent sounds of *y* and *w* may be represented by the vowel sounds, *i* and *u*, and the compound consonant sounds in *cheeze* and *gem* by *ts* and *dz*, thus reducing the number of sounds and letters in the new alphabet to 32, instead of 38.

Mr. Parkhurst reported for the committee on names of letters.

They recommend the use of the usual names for the consonant letters, except, 1st., that the names Double-yon, Wy, and Aich, be changed to Way, Yay and Hay, and that the letter G be called Gay, and R called Ray. 2d, that to avoid confusion with the name En, the letter M be called Am.

It is recommended that the names of the new consonant letters or their equivalent digraphs be Chay, for ch, Ith—th Thee—th, Ish—sh, Zhee—zh, Ing—ng.

The vowels are considered to need no other name than their own distinct sounds.

The committee on resolutions to whom was referred the report of the committee on the omission of useless letters recommended the following rules for omission :

1. Omit *a* from the digraph *ea* when pronounced as *e*-short. Ex.: hed, heven, helth, welth, zelous, etc.
2. Omit silent *e* after a short vowel. Ex.: hav, giv, motiv, infinit, forbad, forgiv, fertil, hostil, servil, etc.
3. Omit final *ue* in catalog, colleg, harang, tong, etc.
4. Omit *gh* when silent, and supply its place with *f* when pronounced as *f*. Ex.: dauter, slaüter, bout, tho, altho, enuf, ruf, etc.

5. Write *f* for *ph* in alfabet, fantom, camfor, filosofy, etc.

6. Write *k* or *c* for *ch* in all words in which *ch* is pronounced as *k*. Ex: arkitect, monark, kemistry, caracter, cronicle, etc.

7. Omit *b, c, d, f, g, h, k, l, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, w, z, ch, rh,* and *th* when silent, as in the following examples:—

b in eb, det, lam, lim, etc.

c in absess, absind, acquies, coales, efferves, sent, (scent), septer, simitar, sion (scion) vituls, &c.

d in Wensday, ad, od, &c.

f in buf, bluf, clif, muf, scof, stif, &c.

g in apothem, arrain, campain, flem, (phlegm), vinyet, (vignette), narl, nash, naw, eg, &c.

h in gost, agast, gastly, reum, reumatism, rime, rubarb, retoric, burg, &c.; onest, onor, (honor), our, &c.

k in nee, nead, neel, nife, noc, (knock), &c.

l in baam (balm) caam, cauk, paam, saam (psalm), tauk; —shal, wel.

m in nemonic, lam, mum, &c.

n in Autum, condem, dam, solem, hym, (hymn) bun, &c.

p in neumatic, neumonia, saam (psalm), seudonim, &c.

r in bur, er, par, pur, &c.

s in apropo, ile (isle), iland, aile, (aisle), vicount, &c., bras, ges, (guess), fulnes, &c.

t in brunet, depo, glisen, lisen, morgaje, bach, (batch), lach, &c.

w in hoop, (whoop), no (know), sord.

z in buz, fuz &c.

ch in dram, (drachm), sizm, sizmatic.

ph and *th* in tizic, (phtisic), ismus, &c.

rh in catar (catarrh), mur (myrrh), &c.

8. Omit *a, e, i, o,* and *u,* when silent, as in the words: siv, (seive), counterfit, mullin, surfit, etc.;—adiu, liutenant, purliu, frend, plad;—lepard, (leopard),—bild, gaje, gard, guarantee, ges, gitar, biskit, condit, circuit, dant (or daant), lanch, stanch, &c.

9. And change *eau* to *o* in bo (beau), buro, shato, (chateau), plato, &c.

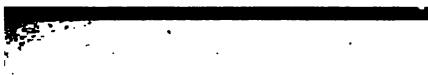
10. Change *ed* final to *t* where it has the sound of *t* as in lasht, imprest, approacht, etc, and to *d* in compeld, dragd, livd, &c.

Dr. Nelson, for the committee on resolutions, reported the following, which were adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this association are hereby tendered to Geo. P. Beard and Melvll Dewey, for the great earnestness exhibited in the cause of phonetic education.

Resolved, That the thanks of the association are hereby tendered to the many citizens of Philadelphia who have cheered us by their presence and sympathy, and to the distinguished foreign gentlemen who have shown an interest in our work, and aided us by their encouraging words.

Adjourned to meet at 9 A. M., Tuesday, October 10, 1876, in the Hall of Franklin Institute, 21 South Seventh street, Philadelphia, Pa.





BULLETIN OF THE SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION

General Offices, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 1.

APRIL.

1877.

NEVER before in the history of the language has there been so much promise of a reform in our orthography as at the present time. The late renewal of the agitation led to the International Convention, August 14-17, 1876. That convention proved that there was an amount of interest in the subject greater than even its friends had supposed. The time had finally come for an international organization to take in hand and guide to a successful completion, the reform so happily begun. This was so evident, that at the close of the four days' meeting there was not a dissenting voice in the Convention, when the SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION was organized.

Many leading scholars and educators are now on our roll, and are working heartily with us. Many influential journals promise and are giving active co-operation; and the officers are constantly receiving communications from those deeply interested in the work and anxious to render their assistance.

A most satisfactory beginning has been made. The Association is admirably organized, and its work is so arranged and divided as to promise the highest degree of success. But there is one very serious obstacle to further progress, — lack of means to pay the absolutely necessary expenses. All officers and committees give not only their services, but their incidental expenses, beside contributing to the general fund. More is demanded, and the merely nominal assessment of members is wholly inadequate.

The publication of the proceedings of the August meeting emptied the treasury, and now when so much might be done with a comparatively small amount of money, when people are constantly asking information, when educators and the press are ready to lend their assistance, we are unable to improve the opportunities.

The Publication Committee were instructed and wish to prepare brief reports of the meetings, showing what has been done and giving such other matter as may be of special value to friends of the reform. It is useless to attempt any large work, unless each member can know what has been done by the Association as such, by the other members, and by state and national organizations, which are taking important steps both in this country and in England.

The committee have also obtained permission to reprint in a cheap form for popular distribution, extracts from the highest philological authorities, containing powerful arguments for the reform. These pamphlet reprints can be made so cheaply that they can be furnished for distribution at a merely nominal amount, and each friend of the movement can have for his own use, and for giving to others whom he desires to interest, the most valuable matter that has been published on the subject. Otherwise this can be obtained, if at all, only in expensive volumes of essays or transactions. In view of these facts it was voted, at Philadelphia, that the committee should issue after each quarterly meeting "a Bulletin containing such of the proceedings as are of general interest, and any other matter which they may select, and one copy of this Bulletin shall be sent to each member of the Association." It is not thought desirable to establish a periodical in the interest of new spelling. Neither is it proposed to print the full minutes of the meetings as recorded by the Secretary. Routine and detail will be rigorously excluded, and only the essential facts briefly given. In addition to *this are proposed brief notes of recent progress, with reference to periodicals where full particulars may be found, and*

a condensed bibliography of the subject, noting the most valuable articles and books that appear from time to time. No intelligent work can be done without this information, and it is next to impossible for each individual to secure it for himself. The amount of interest and the number of inquiries render it next to impossible for the secretaries and officers to scatter it by correspondence. It must be concisely printed, if it is sent out at all ; and this cannot be done without funds.

There are many people who are already deeply interested in the work and who believe it is by far the most important educational question of the day. They believe its value to the English race can not be over-estimated. For these and for all friends of the Spelling Reform, this special circular is issued. If you wish the work to succeed, how much are you willing to give, — to sacrifice if necessary, — in order that it may go forward? The Association is in the interest of no school or faction, but commands the sympathy of every reformer, and at the present time it is in a position to accomplish the largest possible amount with any funds which it can secure. Space will not allow of enlargement. Every person, without exception, that wishes well to the cause can *do something*, if it be very little. Contributions may be made as direct donations, with or without directions as to expenditure; by accepting life-membership and paying therefor \$25.00; by taking certificates of membership filled out in blank, paying for each one dollar, and afterward securing the member and assessment; or by subscribing for extra copies of the Spelling Reform Bulletin to be published by the committee.

Communications should be addressed to the Secretary.

THE ADDRESS

BY S. S. HALDEMAN, LL.D., VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SPELLING-REFORM ASSOCIATION, PROFESSOR OF COMPARATIVE PHILOLOGY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, DELIVERED BEFORE THE ASSOCIATION AT THE OCTOBER MEETING.

[But few spelling changes are tried in the following address, the chief being *i* for final short *y*, a doubled *i* (*ij* for *ii*) adopted to indicate a long final, and always wrong for short *i*. Final *e* is omitted when useless; *f* replaces *ph*; *ss* replaces *s*, to secure the hissing sound; and both *o* and *u* of *ous* remain; because it was deemed too great a perversion to employ either for the very distinct vowel of *up*; *tung* would have implied its use, and *neether* would have favored *ee*.—S. S. H.]

Circumstances attending the Centennial Exposition have made the present a memorabl year; for during this brief period Filadelfia has bin presented to the world as one of the intellectual centres of the human race—a centre with its vast acumulation of practic and scientific results representing the intellect of inventors, authors, teachers, explorers, inyestigators, artists, meni of whom ar present as members of committis in the various departments, or as independent observers. Nor is the Exposition restricted to matters of high civilization, for we find there the productions of human thought as developept among savages, not onli of to-day, but of past ages, as represented by their antiquitis.

In wandering about the Centennial enclosure, Americans must have bin struck with the unfamiliar sounds of foren languages, and the forms they take when presented to the eye in letters, some as entire strangers, some recognizabl as old frends, and others presenting a sufficientli familiiar appearance, but showing themselvs in such questionabl compani as to make it a matter of doubtful proprieti to acnoledge the acquaintanss.

Here is a word, KABKA3IŲ, where we seem to recognise all the letters except two, but these two cast suspicion on the remainder. We find that the 'A' is the cos *mopolitan* *ah*, the supposed *b* we would call *vee*, the '3' we would call *zee* or *zed*, while the revert 'R' is to be red *ya*, the

whole being equivalent to *Kavkaziya*, the region of the Caucasus. Here we may object to the perversion of the almost universal *b*-character to a *zee* power, but the question may be asked by the—

Russian.—Why, when the Anglosaxons gave you a good letter based on the Latin letter 'V' way of the same power for the initial in *wine*—why did you reject it with its etimologic histori, and rob the Germans of their 'w'—a letter to which English had no right?

Englishman.—But you use the figur '3' insted of 'Z.'

Russian.—The letter 'Z' was made for the double sound of *sd* in *wisdom*; it has about half-a-dozen powers among nations, and we do not like its angulariti, which brings it so near to your 'X' that you have confounded them; and pronounce the Zeno and Xeno alike, and you generally use 's' for it, as in wise, lose, miseri.

Englishman.—But why have you that absurd reverst 'R' for *ya*? You got much of your learning thru Germani; why did you not spell *ya* in the German and Latin mode—JA?

Russian.—Perhaps for the reason that you also have a double letter named like the pronoun *you*, yet you do not rite "U and I." We write your *x* with two letters, also your *j* when we use it in foren names like *Reggio*, which the Italians should rite 'Redgio.'

And thus might the Swede, the Dane, the Italian, the Spaniard, the HAWAIIAN (How-ei-ian), and the Dakota Indian animadvert upon our cruditis. A year or two since, the spelling matches proved that no man is shure of his English spelling, neither the printer who puts his types together letter by letter, nor the corrector of the press who sees that the work has been properli done. But if this difficulti is present with those who are in daili practis, how much worss is the case with foreners. As wideli spread, and as great a language as English is acnoledged to be, the Japanese hesitated whether the European tongue, thru which they intended to acquire *Western science*, should not rather be German, notwithstanding

ing its men difficultis. Up to the period of these inquiries they had studied Dutch, the enterprising navigators of that nation having introduced their language at the ports of the Asiatic islands, and to them we owe various useful dictionaries, and also the spelling of the names of some objects belonging to those regions and to South Africa, as that of the tribe of Bosjesmen, into which people who have little acquaintances with the nature and power of letters, wish to force an English *j*, when they would be sufficiently near the sound intended, in saying Bushesmen.

English is a fusion chiefly of Anglosaxon and Norman, a teutonic and romanian tongue. The genders of both were irrational, as in 'stool' (a chair) of the former, which was masculine, and the feminine 'chair' of the latter. This difficulty was not removed by compromise, but by taking a new departure, rejecting the idea of sex, and making inanimate objects neuter. Unhappily, this was not done with the orthography. At the introduction of printing, there was no settled mode of spelling. Caxton's printers were Dutchmen, and we are now suffering the consequences. We have two words spelt with the Dutch 'œ', 'canoe' and 'shoe,'—neither received from Dutch, but this, perhaps, enhances the compliment.

In the so-called Negro-English "Njoe Testament," provided by the British and Foreign Bible Society, the spelling is Dutch, and has, therefore, a degree of uniformity and legibility which it could not have in an English spelling. The language includes Dutch words, as in 'two jars' (two years), where 'two' is English and 'jars' Dutch. In other cases strange words appear which are probably African. The spelling reproduces the simple speech of the people, who, it will be noticed, are fond of final vowels. Here we have—*bifo before*; *bikasi for* (because); *djoe, jew, jews*; *famili kindred*; *foetoe foot*; *frede afraid*, *hagoe swine*; *joe, you, thee*; *joeroe hour*; *kali call, name*; *Keyzer Cæsar*; *kili kill*; *klosibei near*; *komopo come up, come out*; *kondre country*; *loekoe (look you) behold*; *tata father*; *mama mother*; *man husband*; *Masra en*

Helpiman *Lord and Savior*; meestr (Dutch) *master*; njoe *new*; piple (note the final vowel) *people*; plesi *place*; sipi *ship*; ston (old Eng. ston, stoon) *stone*; taki *talk, said*. — Josef wieki na slibi, a doe so, leki da Engel vo Masra ben taki gi hem,— *Joseph wake from sleep, has do so, like the angel of Lord been talk to him.*—Matt. 1 : 24.

It will be remembered that in August of the present year, 1876, an "International Convention for the Amendment of English Orthography" was held here in Philadelphia; the present "Speling Reform Association" owes its existenss to that meeting; we hope that the new organisa'ion will flourish until its functions shal hav bin satisfactorili accomplisht, and that its life may be a short one.

Let us take a glanss at English spelling. If 'shoe' spels *shu* (except in su-gar), 'toe' shoud spel *too* or *two*, but it spels *to*, and 'to' spels *too*. Compare do, doe, does. We may read 'lead,' or it may be red *led*. By adding what is called a silent letter, we convert 'decent' into 'descent,' 'hose' into 'whose,' 'cor(ps)' into 'corpse,' 'coral' into 'choral,' where 'h' marks a long vowel, as in German 'thon' (clay), 'thun' (to do). So the addition of an 'e' turns 'fed' into 'feed' and 'breath' into 'breathe.' A dealer in gross was called a 'grocer.' Pen-elope probabli did not elope, but having a Greek name we give her four sillabls an honor we do not always extend to Pro-ser'pi-ne. Compare—beau, beauti; Peter, sa't-petre; deal, deal-t; feel, felt; own, town; pay, paid; pray, prayed; die, dying; dye, dyeing; eye, eye-ing; dough, doughty; heal, health; hear, heard; heather, (hether); fluid, fruit, guide, Guido (= gweedo); ail, aisle, Câiro, Port Sâid; mishap, bishop; vie, vie-w. R. should stand high in grammatolatri or letter worship; it prevents 'friends' from becoming 'fiends,' a 'brother' from becoming a 'bother,' and it turns 'both' into 'broth.'

When by acsident a sound has different spellings, as when a wright writes on the rites of the church and the rights of the peopl, some of us tel our children that this is done +

distinguish such words, but we have no answer when asked why 'rent' (income), and 'rent' (a tear),—why 'tare' (a plant) and 'tare' (allowance),—why 'tear' (of the eye) and 'tear' (a rent)—why 'sound' as meaning to fathom, helthy, a tone, a strait, an airbladder, a probe, a cuttle-fish,—should not vary in the spelling. But, in fact, whatever the meaning the spelling of 'sound' is sound spelling, inasmuch as it is fonetic.

In anglicising the French partisipl 'du' (fem. due), the right form was rejected except in du-ty, 'view' would at least have been etimologic as 'veu' or 'vu'; the French word 'dette' occurs in English as early as the year 1240, at the dawn of the language (for Semisaxon extended to about 1250), and showed its origin, until some pedant supposed it should have a 'b.' Chaucer, who belongs to the fourteenth century, writes,—

“ Ther wist no man that he was in dette,”

which Sir Thomas More (1480-1535) improves by writing it 'det,'—

“ To aske theyr det,
But none could get . . . ”

Similarly, as representing an English word, the spelling 'doubt' is newer (nīuər) than the old form 'doute' into which some one put a 'b' to associate it with the late book-word 'dubious.' He might as well have spelt 'may' and 'see' with a 'g' to account for its presences in their derivatives might and sight. The spelling 'plow' is as old as the thirteenth century, and altho 'plough' is also old, it seems to have been a concession to dialects akin to Scotch, and does not seem to occur in the compounds 'plowman' and 'plowstaff.' Dr. Trench having written a superficial work on the Study of Words, he and his admirers should be asked such questions as: If 'g' is a proper constituent in spelling 'might,' or 'I' in 'could' how did it get there? Why do you prefer 'sprightly,' (from *sprite*) to Young's 'spritely'? or 'sovereign' (from *super-us*) to Milton's 'soveran'?

English spelling is not due to linguists or scholars, but to accident, which caused the same word or stem to take different forms, as the verb 'bow' and the noun 'bough'; awe, aw-ful; compete, repeat; conceit, receipt; concrete, discreet; convey, inveigh: deign, disdain; drachm, dram; draft, draught; invoke, vocation; fantasy, fancy; mire, miry; fire, fiery; flour, flower; flow, float; fly, flight; glare, glair; guard, regard: glue (Fr. glu), glutinous; indict, iudite; Jew, Judea; joke, jocose; line, align; mantle, mantel; noun, renown; nurture, nourish; pair, compare; plane, plain; pleat, plait; proceed, recede; prove, proof; rally, raillery (ralleri); raze, erase; scent, sentient; speak, speech; stayed, staid; steadfast, steady; strait (narrow), straight; and men more.

The spelling of English or Anglosaxon, and of old English was in many cases better than that of Dr. Johnson; but we must admit that much of the confusion has arisen from the attempt to write fortiori sounds with twenty letters, instead of adopting new, modified or marked characters for the sounds unrepresented in the Latin alphabet. In English and the subsequent stage called English (with *e* in *ebb*) there were several characters which were dropped, perhaps by printers without the proper types. They soon shortened Germanic 'sch' into 'sh' and instead of giving to this sound a special letter, some phoneticians have proposed one like a union of 's' and 'h,' which has nothing to do with it, and, in fact, the remote ancestor of our own alphabet—the Phœnician—had a letter for it translatable into an Egyptian glyph.

Old English gives us the following spellings, to be pronounced like their modern forms (given in italics) bon, *bone*; bost *boast*; brêst; deth; frut, *fruit*; gard; gentil, *genteel*; gret, *great*; hart, *heart*; helth; hors, *horse*; hu, *who*; oth, *oath*; ren, *rain*; sle, *slay*. ter-en *to tear*; west-en, *to waste*—where the vowels have European powers.

Among the ancestors of English is old Frisian, of which the following are examples of words which have come

unchanged—del, *dale*; fri, *free*; hi, *he*; hir, *here*; hwer, *where*; mi, *me*; niar, *near*; stil, *steel*; tema, *tame*; thi, *thee*; tron, *throne*. [See Hald. Analytic Orthography, 1860, p. 61.]

The following are examples of Shakspeare's spellings, selected from the first edition of "Much adoe about Nothing," publisht in 1600—adew; adoe, *ado*; affoord (with the German and old Eng. 'oo' retained in floor, door); al, *all* (the 'll' of which marks the short vowel of 'what,' for 'all' is short in Scotch as in German); batcheller, *bachelor*; beautie and beauty; beleuee, *believe*; bloud, *blood*; broder, *broader*; buie, *buy*; calld; cappe; cariage; carreere; coosin, *cosin*, *cosen*, *cousin*; daunce; deere, *dear*; dispight, *despite*; diuell, *devil*; doe, *do*; drumme; dueti; dul; ele, *eye*; eies, *eyes*; ghesse, *guess*; gouvernour; gouernnd; heele, *he will*; honor; humor; hower, *hour*; howres, *hours*; ile, *I will*; ioy, *joy*; ijjge, *jig*; ladie, *lady*; ladiship; lookte; madde; mans, *man's*; mee; misusde; musique; musitian; neece and niece; neuer, *never*; ores, *oars*; parrat, *parrot*; pittty; penne, *pen*; putte, *put*; rulde, *ruled*; scholler; shees, *she is*; sincke, *sink*; sodaine; spel; spight; squier; stil; starre; stolue; suspition; suter, *sutier*; a souldiers eie; souldiours; tel; til; therefore; thincke; thogh; trie, *try*; trueth; twoo; vnckle *uncle*; vnhandsome; vttred; waiward; wel; wil; wooe; yere; yong; youle, *you will*.

Next to Shakspeare's, the spelling of Milton is that which the antireformers express themselvs most ancs hus to protect from the violenss of literari iconoclasts, altho it is probabl that these Trencher frends never saw a copi of either. Some of the spellings of "Paradise Lost" are here copid from the 3d edition of the first book, 1678, the date of the 1st ed. being 1667, the 2d, 1674. Altho Milton was a scolar who rote good Latin and Italian, it is evident that he was not a pedant in regard to the bugbear of etimologic orthograft. As in old English we find 'thorowe out' in 1549 (but closed into 'through-out' in 1552), so we find the parts separated in 'it self,' 'your self,' etc.: avoyded; ballance; battle, battel, imbattelled;

baum *balm*; boyling; breaths *breathes*; brigad; center; cherub, cherube; custome; darkn'd; demy-gods; despere, dittyes; dores; earst; eclips; exprest; fardest *farthest*; fertil; forrest; freeze *frieze*; flowr; glimps; honour; splendors; hurld; ile *isle*; illumin; imbowr; jeynd; joynt; lyes; mans *man's*; neerer; noyse; onely; o're; rowld; rowling smoak; scatterd; scituation; scurff; seduc't; seis'd; shoar; skie; sovrän (9th ed. 1711, sov'rain); summs; supream; survay'd; thir *their*; towr, towrs; toyl; ty'd; warr, warriors.

Peopl are getting disgusted with the idol of English spelling, and they are lerning that they may strike it without getting a blo in return. Some sensibl person perseivd that he coud rite 'jail' for 'gaol,' and the crowd wondered at its own want of penetration in not having antisipated the discoveri. So when the "Katy King" apparition was astonishing a credulous throng in this city, *one* sensibl observer was sufficient to put the sham to flight. We now find peopl who are not afraid to write 'program' as well as 'diagram.' In meni cases these changes hav arisen in distant places about the same time. We now see 'tsar' for the absurd 'czar,' which ought to spel 'tshar;' last year it was thought that the name of a slâvonian must be ritn 'slave' as in the dictionaris. In Jan., 1875, I mentiond the 'slâvs,' and a few days ago (Oct. 6) the N. Y. Tribune mentions the "slav dialects."

As a whole, English spelling has never been permanent, and innovators hav been constantli met by protestors. In England, the exclusiv right to publish bibls was givn to Oxford, and when ameliorations in the spelling began to appear at the Oxford press, a strong and lerned protest was issued at London in 1682—an anonimous folio pamflet of ten pages, entitled, "Friendly Advice to the Correctour of the English Press at Oxford concerning the English Orthographie." The lerned author sets the argument in a strong light, yet most of the innovations objected to have been adopted, even by the objectors of today, such as color, humor, neighbor, editor—which to be English should be 'editour;' 'mold' should be 'mould';

guess, bless, calm, wickedness, etc., should not be thus deprived of their final 'e,' nor tropic of its final 'k.'

Among the spellings of this rare paper are—Cesar, cite, customes, diphthongs, doctour, errour, faild, faileur, forrein, instruct, joyn, justife, lesse, loose, *lose*, murthering, neer, nowns, onely, porrage, practises, seperation, then, *than*, undecent, volumne (which has the same right as 'column' to an 'n') your self.

Our spelling is so lawless that we take unscientific rules for our guide, and instead of following the great law that Speech is older than Spelling, we make it newer; and if the spelling depends upon some hidn fact, a word may be sacrificed to a fetis^h or bit of paper with writing upon it. Peopl who lern onli spelling, and neglect the laws of speech, are continual trying to reconstruct words from spellings, the significanci of which they do not understand. The dictionaris giv a spurious word da-al-der for the falss reason that we must pronounce it *dollar*, the Dutch call it daal-der (with *aa* as in 'Haarlem'). When we turn it into the falss coin da-al-der it ceases to be a proper word, and of course neither Worcester nor Webster has provided it with an etimologi. If our scholars may thus blunder, what may we expect from humbler sourses, where there is less noledge of the laws of speech and the function of letters. We may pursu this daal-der farther. It is the German thaler (tâler) from Joachimstal or *dale* where first coined; 'dale' is from a root meaning to *divide*; henss also 'dole' a part del-t out, and 'deal' to divide or distribute. Morover, this veri 'deal' would be present in 'ordeal' if the spellers had not repeated the da-al-der trick by giving this word as or-de-al.

Imagining that the existenss of the word 'great' depends somehow upon its spelling, lord Chesterfield told Dr. Johnson that it ought to be called *greet*. When the erlier poets shortened 'meadow' nothing could be left but *med* which Milton rimed with 'spread,' Chaucer with 'red' Herrick with 'tread;' but later versifyers mistake it for 'meed,'

which would turn its proper rime 'spred' into *spreed*, and 'tred' into *treed*. Again, we took the Greek and Latin *PRORA* (the front of a ship) as 'prore,' which dwindled back to its root *PRO* (*before*, as we have it in *PRO-log*), to which some spellingmaster added 'w,' perhaps to make it a more respectable rime to 'blow.' In Falconer's classic poem of the "Shipwreck," it rimes tow, below, glow, flow.

"For while more eastward they direct the prow,
Enormous waves the quivering deck o'erflow;"

and Scott writes,—

"High stood the henchman on the prow;
So rapidly the bargemen row."

Nevertheless, the dictionaries now tell us we may rime it with 'cow,'—possible sea-cow.

Among such factitious spuriousities may be cited—hurth for harth; ze-nith for zen-ith; sug-gest for su'gest; dif-thong for dip-thong; to-may-to for to-mah-to; nig-ther for neether; wound (as if from *wind*) for woond; troth (rhyming 'cloth' instead of 'both,')—for being an older form of 'truth,' this could hardly have been derived from it, if its vowel had been as high in the scale as that of 'cloth,' whereas the true *o* of 'both' readily falls into *oo* of 'truth,' as Anglosaxon *toth* (rhyming 'both') closed to 'tooth.' In most cases, when two modes of pronouncing are given, one of them is spurious, as when 'tshival-ri' (with Norman 'ch' of 'chair' and 'chandler') is perverted to 'shivalry' on the strength of the modern importation 'chevalier.' Yet there are cases, such as 'drouth' and 'drought,' 'highth' and 'hight,' in which both forms follow legitimate speech laws.

Having neglected to keep our alphabet parallel with that of Europe, we are in a sad way in this age of international interests, when we have occasion to use foreign words and to speak of foreign places, even those first riven by American missionaries. We need not necessarily silence the 's' of 'Calais,' because an old English form was 'Calice' but are we to call a certain

river Wolga or Volga, and why do the spellers giv us two forms? 'Moscow' was intended to giv the German 'Moskau,' but we call it 'Mosko.' We often hear 'Kroat' in one syllab, except when we hav the slâv necktie in view, when we say *cravat*, taking care to insert the Bohemian *v* of 'Chrwat,' thus making a generous concession to comparativ filologi. The 'ie' of 'tie' or of 'field' is no criterion for the dissyllabs Wi-en and Ki-ef or Ki-ev, and it is better to say Byel-its for 'Bielitz.'

In its main features the pronunciation of Inglish is priti wel setld, whether we follo Smart, Worcester or Webster, so that whatever alfabet is used, the spokn word wil remain, and under fônetic forms which wil probabli prevent us from hearing such perversions as *pie-ano* and *engein*. It remains to be mentioned as an important fact, that the conclusions which may result from the deliberations of this bodi are to be submitted for approv'l to the American Philological Association, which has a committl on the subject.

CHICKIS, P.A., Oct. 7, 1876.

[Abridged from the Secretary's records. All mention of routine business, adjournments from morning to afternoon and evening sessions, and of all other matter of no special importance or interest to the general membership is omitted. Committees, officers, etc., are notified individually; but the printed minutes are necessarily made very brief.]

OCTOBER MEETING

HELD AT THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE, PHILADELPHIA.

Tuesday, October 10, 1876.

The quarterly meeting was called to order by Vice-President Haldeman at 11, A. M. The Secretary read letters from President March, Vice-Presidents Whitney, Harris and Jones, and Prof. Sawyer. Also a letter signed "Reformer," urging the Association to work in harmony with Isaac Pitman, of England; and another from Dr. Adolf Douai, author of the Rational Readers, explaining his proposed scheme for reforming the English orthography; also a similar letter from the Randolph Phonetic Association.

The Corresponding Secretary, Rev. D. P. Lindsley, then presented, with explanatory remarks, letters from Asa Horr, Dubuque, Ia.; Arthur Gilman, Cambridge, Mass.; Rev. Dr. D. D. Whedon, Editor "Methodist Quarterly Review," N. Y.; Geo. Perry, Editor of the "Home Journal," N. Y.; J. M. Gregory, President of the Ill. Industrial University, Champaign, Ill.; J. C. Carr, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Sacramento, Cal.; Prof. Geo. P. Beard, Principal of the National Institute, Jersey Shore, Pa.; Prof. C. F. Stokey, Mt. Union College, O.; Prof. T. Marcellus Marshall, Principal Glenville Normal School, W. Virginia; W. D. Vermillion, Principal Hebron High School, Thayer Co., Neb.; Wm. B. Allen, Superintendent of Schools, Trenton, N. J.; Dr. Edward Aiken, Amherst, N. H.; W. A. Warren, Principal Normal School and Editor "Carolina Teacher," Columbia, S. C.; Edward B. Glasgow, Instructor in English Literature, Highland Military Academy, Worcester, Mass.; Prof. P. H. Philbrick, State University, Iowa City, Ia., and many others.

The Secretary was directed to record the addresses of those persons who had manifested special interest in the work of the Association.

Mrs. Burns read an interesting letter from Vice-President Jones, of Liverpool; also letters from various persons in this country.

Mr. A. J. Pierce presented a copy of the Phonetic Deseret or Mormon Alphabet, and Dr. Haldeman compared at some length the alphabets of various languages, while Mr. Stephen Pearl Andrews spoke of the different points of view from which the reform should be considered.

After remarks explaining the unwillingness of many influential persons to become members of an Association of reformers without protection against improper use of the associated name, and with mention of the great desirability of some means of communication with all the members of the Association, by which they might be kept thoroughly informed of the work, By-Laws 8 and 9 were adopted. (*See Constitution and By-Laws.*)

Attention being called to the awkward length of the present titles and the confusion that sometimes resulted from the similarity, it was voted that the words "recording" and "corresponding secretary and" be omitted from the titles of the Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, in Art. 4, Sec. 1, of the Constitution, their duties remaining the same as at present.

Fifty-three persons and organizations were then proposed for membership and elected.

Mr. R. B. Taylor, of Kansas, spoke of the manner in which he should interest working men in the phonetic system, and was followed with general remarks by various members.

Attention was called to the inconvenience of the rule which required all applications for membership to be deferred until a quarterly meeting of the Association. The desire being to secure as large a membership as possible, it seemed best to make the formalities of joining as few as consistent with proper protection against imposition. After discussion, it was voted that certificates of membership be signed in blank, and issued to such members, officers and committees as de-

sire them, on condition that either the certificate or the the annual payment thereon shall be reported whenever called for.

After discussion of the proceedings of the August Convention, which were distributed among those present, there was offered the following :—

Resolved, That no changes in orthography shall be recommended for general use, or used in the publications of the Association, except such as may be reported as final by the Committee on New Spellings, provided that papers may, by consent of the Association or said committee be published in the spelling of the author.

Resolved, That the Committee on New Spellings consist of President March and Vice-Presidents Haldeman and Whitney.

Resolved, That all publications of the Association follow the spellings reported by the Committee on New Spellings.

In support of the resolution it was said: "We read and write outlines rather than individual letters; the fingers have learned to trace *words*, and the eye to recognize *words* without noting the separate letters. These word-forms flow from the pen of a ready writer almost mechanically, and come to the eye in groups, so that the best readers can read whole sentences with the single impulse which the beginner gives to each letter. It has been argued, and with force, that the reformers would break up this crystal, this word-form, and vary it in some of its parts, so that, for a time, neither finger nor eye could manage the outlines so readily. Of course, after using the new forms for some little time, the same facility is gained; but the objection urged is, that as fast as the outline gets familiar, some further improvement is introduced, and it is again varied. This resolution proposes to avoid all this, as far as the Association is concerned. All such experiments it leaves to individuals. For itself, it will use, and recommend for adoption by others, only such new spellings as can be changed once for all, and made perfectly satisfactory from the outset. This makes the work slow, but very sure. When the Association takes a step forward, it is confident that that step will not have to be retraced. Progress of this

kind, however slow, is substantial; and we may congratulate ourselves on taking a stand that will enable us, after gaining an inch, to hold it against all opposition and prejudice. Furthermore, this slow progress is the only practical way to reform our barbarous spelling. The dead-weight of mere passive resistance is so enormous, that a sudden, complete overturning of the present orthography is simply hopeless."

After hearty endorsement by Prof. Parker and several others, the resolutions were adopted.

Mr. Duane made some remarks, showing the uselessness of the *y*, which he hoped would be wholly discarded. After informal discussion of various matters, it was,—

Resolved, That "no assessment of dues shall be made upon editors or other duly accredited members of the press."

Prof. Parker explained, from the charts hanging in the room, that there was no need of secondary forms for the capital letters; and Dr. Haldeman said that Dr. Gilchrist, a famous Oriental scholar, avoided the use of capitals, and sometimes spelt his own name *j. b. gilchrist*.

Mrs. Burns reported for the Committee on Phonetic Specimens that they had done much hard work, and that there was still much to be done. Mr. Parkhurst had printed in the "Plowshare," copies of which were furnished to those present, reports of progress, and from them she read. The thanks of the Association were extended to the committee for their report, which showed so much special ability and so much successful labor, and the committee was continued. It is hoped to give the reports in an early Bulletin.

The committee to whom were referred the question of branch organizations reported that they recommended the establishment of branches wherever practicable; and that such branches be enrolled on the list of members, subject to the regular assessment of \$1.00, and to an additional assessment of 10 cents for each member of the branch, both assessments to be paid to the Association by the Treasurer of the

branch ; and that county and State organizations be perfected where practicable. They further recommended that such branch organizations be required to adopt the following Constitution, with such additional clauses or by-laws as each may adopt.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be called the——Branch of the Spelling Reform Association.

ART. 2. The object of this organization shall be to co-operate with the Spelling Reform Association in the simplification of English orthography, and it shall be subject to the Constitution, regulations and assessments of that Association.

ART. 3. Any person desiring to co-operate in the work of this Association may become a member by signing the Constitution and paying the annual assessment.

ART. 4. Section 1. The officers of this Association shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

Sec. 2. These officers shall together constitute an Executive Board, which shall hold regular monthly meetings, and in the intervals between the quarterly meetings shall have full power to act for the Branch, either directly or through the committees of the Board.

Sec. 3. The Secretary shall keep a faithful record of those present at each meeting of the Branch or Board, and of all business transacted, and shall give due notice of any election, appointment, meeting, or other business requiring the personal attention of any member.

Sec. 4. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements, with date, purpose and amount, and shall pay no moneys without written order of two members of the Executive Board.

ART. 5. There shall be regular quarterly meetings of the Branch at such time and place as the Board may select, and each member shall be notified of the time and place at least ten days previously.

ART. 6. Any by-law not inconsistent with this Constitution, or the Constitution of the general Association, may be adopted by three-fourths vote at any meeting.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Mr. R. B. Taylor, editor of the Wyandotte (Kan.) "Gazette," offered the following, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That this Association recommends to the editors and publishers of newspapers and other periodicals throughout the country.

who are friendly to the cause of the Spelling Reform, that they give their readers as full reports of the doings of the Spelling Reform Association as they conveniently can, and also that they recommend the reform to their readers.

To secure the wide distribution of the most valuable matter printed in favor of the reform it was--

Resolved, That the Publication Committee be requested, if practicable, to reprint for wide circulation, at a merely nominal expense, such extracts or articles as are best calculated to advance the reform.

The committee on visiting the religious societies reported progress.

The question of the distribution of the proceedings was raised, and, after discussion, it was voted to refer the whole matter of the distribution or sale of the publications of the Association to the Finance Committee.

Dr. Haldeman then delivered an address on the Spelling Reform (p. 3). This was followed by Mr. Stephen Pearl Andrews, who described his system of orthography.

The Association tendered a vote of thanks to both Dr. Haldeman and Mr. Andrews, for their able and interesting addresses; to Mr. D. S. Holman, for his unremitting attentions to the wants of the Association during its sessions; and to the Franklin Institute, for the use of their hall.

Miss Mary A. Roland was elected Local Committee for Wilmington, Del., and R. B. Taylor, Membership Committee for Kansas, after which the meeting adjourned to meet at Boston, Jan. 13, 1877.

Attest:

MELVIL DEWEY,

Secretary.

JANUARY MEETING.

HELD AT THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, BOSTON.

January 13th, 1877.

Twenty-five members were proposed and elected.

It was voted that the proceeding of the August convention

as printed, be distributed only to members of the Association, and that the Secretary prepare for general distribution a Bulletin containing the more important portion.

Each member was authorized to solicit, in the name of the Association, funds for the general treasury, to be expended under the direction of the Finance Committee in advancing the reform.

The Secretary was instructed to prepare a circular to be sent to friends of the cause, asking for contributions and membership.

The Committee on New Spellings were requested to report, as early as practicable, some change in spelling to be adopted in the publications.

The report of the October meeting was then taken and discussed point by point, and all the amendments to the Constitution and By-laws as amended and supplemented as follows :—

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. — NAME.

This association shall be called the SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

ART. 2. — OBJECT.

This object of this Association, shall be the simplification of English orthography. To this end it will secure the delivery of addresses, publish articles, circulate books, pamphlets and charts, endeavor to introduce the reform in Schools, and in all proper ways, as far as the means at its disposal will allow, will urge the matter upon the attention of the people.

ART. 3. — MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. Any person, association, or organization desiring to co-operate in the work of this Association, after paying the annual assessment and signing the Constitution, may receive the official certificate of membership and become entitled to all its rights and privileges, the election being subject to ratification at the next regular meeting.

SEC. 2. By the payment of twenty-five dollars, any member may receive a certificate of life membership, which shall permanently entitle the holder to all the rights and privileges of membership without payment of the annual assessments.

SEC. 3. Such persons as are unanimously approved by the Board may be elected honorary members.

ART. 4. — OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The officers of this Association shall a President, Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and Finance, Membership, and Publication Committees, of three each.

SECT. 2. These officers shall together constitute an Executive Board, which shall hold regular quarterly meetings, and in the intervals between the annual meetings shall have full power to act for the Association, either directly or through the committees of the Board.

SECT. 3. This Board shall have power to establish branch organizations, and local committees of this Association to carry on the reform in different localities ; provided that such branches shall adopt for their government the Constitution for Branches provided by the Association.

SECT. 4. The Secretary shall keep a faithful record of those present at each meeting of the Association or Board, and of all business transacted, and shall give due notice of any election, appointment, meeting or other business requiring personal attention of any member.

SECT. 5. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements, with date, purpose, and amount and shall pay no moneys without written order of two members of the Finance Committee.

SECT. 6. The Finance Committee shall have control of all receipts from donations, subscriptions, or assessments ; they shall solicit and receive contributions for carrying on the work of the Association, make appropriations, audit bills, and give orders on the Treasurer for payment.

ART. 5. — MEETINGS.

There shall be regular annual meetings of the Association, at such time and place as the Board may select, and each member shall be notified of the time and place at least one month previously.

ART. 6. — BY-LAWS.

SECTION 1. Any by-law not inconsistent with this Constitution may be adopted by three-fourths vote at my meeting.

SECT. 2. Any by-law may be suspended by unanimous vote at any meeting, but shall be repealed only by three-fourths vote at two successive meetings.

ART. 7. — AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended by three-fourths vote of the members present at two successive meetings of the Association.

BY-LAWS.

1. The officers of this Association shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, and shall hold their offices till their successors are elected and duly qualified.

2. All committees not otherwise provided for shall consist of three members, and shall be appointed by the chair.

3. The books and records of both the Secretary and Treasurer shall be kept in the office, and open to the inspection of the members; and before each quarterly meeting they shall be examined in detail, and if found correct shall be so endorsed by the President.

4. The members present at any meeting of the Association, and at any meeting of the Board, five officers, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

5. The time and place of annual, quarterly and special meetings shall be determined by the Board.

6. Each member shall pay to the Treasurer an annual assessment of one dollar.

7. No portion of the money entrusted to the Finance Committee shall be used for the purchase of office furniture, fixtures, or any other articles to be retained as the property of this Association.

8. No officer or member shall print or cause to be printed, under the name of this Association or any of its committees, any matter not first approved in writing by the Publication Committee.

9. After each quarterly meeting, the Publication Committee shall issue a Bulletin, containing such of the proceedings as are of general interest, and any other matter which they may select, and one copy of this Bulletin shall be sent to each member of the Association.

10. No changes in orthography shall be recommended for general use or used in the publications of this Association, except such as may be reported as final by the Committee on New Spellings; provided that papers may, by consent of the Association or said committee, be published in the spelling of the author.

11. No assessment of dues shall be made upon editors, or other duly accredited members of the press.

Some two hours were spent in discussion, but no action was taken that requires record in the abridged report. The April meeting was appointed for New York, and will be held in the office of Vice-president Burns, Room 18, 33 Park Row, Saturday, April 28, 1877, at 10 A. M.

Attest:

MELVIL DEWEY,

Secretary.

BOARD OF OFFICERS.

PRESIDENT.

FRANCIS A. MARCH, LL. D.

Prof. English Language and Comparative Philology, Lafayette College.
Ex-President of the American Philological Association.
EASTON, PENN.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

S. S. HALDEMAN, LL. D.

Prof. Comparative Philology, University of Pennsylvania. Ex-President American Philological Association.
CHICKIES, PENN.

W. D. WHITNEY, LL. D.

Prof. Sanscrit and Comparative Philology, Yale College. Ex-President American Philological Association.
NEW HAVEN, CONN.

HON. W. T. HARRIS, LL. D.

Superintendent of Schools, St. Louis. Editor Journal Speculative Philosophy.
ST. LOUIS, MO.

C. K. NELSON, D. D.

Vice-President St. John's College.
ANNAPOLIS, MD.

E. JONES, B. A.

4 Amberly Street,
LIVERPOOL, ENG.

ELIZÁ B. BURNS,

24 Clinton Place,
NEW YORK.

SECRETARY.

MELVIL DEWEY,
1 Tremont Place,
BOSTON.

TREASURER.

REV. D. P. LINDSLEY,
Fernwood, Del. Co.,
PENN.

BULLETIN

OF THE

SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Secretary's Office, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 2.

JULY.

1877.

THE COMMITTEES' REPORTS AND OUR NEW ALPHABET.

The reports of the Committees on New Spelling of the American Philological Association and of the Spelling Reform Association have now been made and adopted by these Associations. They contain a statement of the end at which the reformers should aim, the principles which should direct their action, the best methods of progress, and a considerable number of matter-of-fact suggestions, among which is a complete phonetic alphabet.

We shall devote this number of our Bulletin mainly to setting forth and illustrating these reports.

At the annual meeting of the American Philological Association, in 1874, at Hartford, the President, Prof. F. A. March, in the opening address, spoke at some length on the reform of spelling. He said, among other things:—

It is of no use to try to characterize with fitting epithets and adequate terms of objurcation the monstrous spelling of the English language.

The time lost by it is a large part of the whole school-time of the mass of men. Count the hours that each man wastes in learning to read at school, the hours which he wastes through life from the hindrance to easy reading, the hours wasted at school in learning to spell, the hours spent through life in keeping up and perfecting this knowledge of spelling, in consulting dictionaries, a work that never ends, the hours that he spends in writing silent

letters; and multiply this time by the number of persons who speak English, and we shall have a total of millions of years wasted by each generation. The cost of printing the silent letters of the English language is to be counted by millions of dollars for each generation. And yet literary amateurs fall in love with these squintings and lisplings. They try to defend them by pleading their advantage in the study of etymology. But a changeless orthography destroys the material for etymological study, and written records are valuable to the philologist just in proportion as they are accurate records of speech as spoken from year to year.

Beyond all doubt this reform will by and by be accomplished. Year by year the power of combined action is better understood and more easily attained. Perhaps our American Philological Association, as a great popular organization of linguistic scholarship, may rapidly attain an influence which may give it powers of reform as yet unsuspected. We have sometimes thought a special league among our scholars might be formed for this end, in which one by one might be pledged to particular efforts for reform, and so large a number be brought together finally, as to overbear popular inertia and prejudice, and introduce reformed books in the schools. Then publishers would be found to print all the books needed, and more.

At the annual meeting, in 1875, at Newport, the President, Prof. J. Hammond Trumbull, again took up the subject. He said:—

In the devious mazes of American linguistics it is easy to lose one's way and forget the time. Let us return homeward, to say something about a language in which members of the Association have a more direct and selfish interest than in the Algonkin,—a language which, in spite of the predictions of Noah Webster, that a "future separation of the *American* tongue was necessary," Americans still love to call *English*.

There are indications of increased interest in this subject. The popular mind seems awake, as never before, to appreciation of the difficulties, eccentricities, and absurdities of the present standard-English cacography. The remarks of Professor March, in his address to the Association, last year, have been extensively copied, and apparently meet very general approval. Professor Whitney's discussion of the question, "How shall we spell?" has helped expose the weakness of the stereotyped objections urged against reform. Legislators are beginning to look at the subject *from the economic point of view*, as related to popular educa-

tion, and are considering how much bad spelling costs the country per annum. A bill is now before the Legislature of Connecticut for the appointment of a commission to inquire and report as to the expediency of employing a reformed orthography in printing the laws and journals. The "spelling matches" which, last winter, became epidemic, had their influence, by bringing more clearly to popular apprehension the anomalies of the current orthography, and disposed many to admit (with Mr. A. J. Ellis) that "to spell English is the most difficult of human attainments."

Among scholars there is little difference of opinion on the main question, Is reform of the present spelling *desirable*? The objection, that reform would obscure etymology, is not urged by real etymologists. "Our common spelling is often an untrustworthy guide to etymology," as Professor Hadley averred; and Professor Max Müller's declaration that, "if our spelling followed the pronunciation of words, it would in reality be of greater help to the critical student of language than the present uncertain and unscientific mode of writing," receives the nearly unanimous assent of English scholars.

Equally unfounded is the objection that words when decently spelled would lose their "historic interest." The modern orthography is, superlatively, *unhistorical*. Instead of guiding us to, it draws us from, the "well of English undefyled." The only history it can be trusted to teach begins with the publication of Johnson's dictionary.

The greatest obstacle to reform is the want of agreement among scholars as to the best mode of effecting it. What seems an improvement to one is regarded by another as an undesirable innovation, or, perhaps, as a new deformity. Few men are without a pet orthographical prejudice or two, and the more unreasonable these are, the more obstinately they are held fast.

Perhaps the most that can be hoped for, at present, is some approximation to general agreement, as to the words, or classes of words, for which an amended spelling may be adopted, concurrent with that which is now in use. A list of words "in reference to which present usage in the United States or in England sanctions more than one way of spelling," is prefixed to Webster's and Worcester's dictionaries. A similar list, prepared under judicious limitations, exhibiting side by side the present and a reformed spelling, — and an agreement of prominent scholars, in England and America, that the use of either form shall be recognized as allowable spelling, — would go far towards ensuring the success of reform.

It is in compliance with suggestions repeatedly made, and

from various quarters, that this subject has been brought to the consideration of the Association. It is for you to decide whether it is advisable to take any action for promoting and directing the popular movement for reformed orthography.

On motion it was —

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the President, to whom shall be referred so much of his annual address as treats of a reformation of English spelling.

Professor Francis A. March, of Lafayette College, Professor S. S. Haldeman, of the University of Pennsylvania, and Professor Lewis R. Packard, of Yale College, were appointed such committee, and on the third day of the session reported: —

It does not seem desirable to attempt such sweeping changes as to leave the general speech without a standard, or to render it unintelligible to common readers; but the changes adopted in our standards of the written speech have lagged far behind those made in the spoken language, and the present seems to be a favorable time for a rapid reform of many of the worst discrepancies. The committee think that a considerable list of words may be made, in which the spelling may be changed, by dropping silent letters and otherwise, so as to make them better conform to the analogies of the language and draw them nearer to our sister languages and to a general alphabet, and yet leave them recognizable by common readers; and that the publication of such a list under the authority of this Association would do much to accelerate the progress of our standards and the general reform of our spelling.

They recommend that a committee be raised, to consist of the first president of the Association (Professor W. D. Whitney) and other recognized representatives of our great universities and of linguistic science, to whom the whole subject be referred, and who may prepare and print such a list of words if they think best, and who be requested to report at the next meeting of the Association.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to take the whole matter into consideration, with power to sit in the recess, and to report at the next meeting of the Association; and that the committee consist of Professor W. D. Whitney of Yale College, Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull of Yale College, Professor F. J. Child of Harvard University, Professor F. A. March of Lafay-

ette College, and Professor S. S. Haldeman of the University of Pennsylvania.

At the annual meeting in 1876, at New York, Professor W. D. Whitney, chairman of the committee, presented the report:—

1. The true and sole office of alphabetic writing is, faithfully and intelligibly to represent spoken speech. So-called "historical" orthography is only a concession to the weakness of prejudice.

2. The ideal of an alphabet is that every sound should have its own unvarying sign, and every sign its own unvarying sound.

3. An alphabet intended for use by a vast community need not attempt an exhaustive analysis of the elements of utterance, and a representation of the nicest varieties of articulation; it may well leave room for the unavoidable play of individual and local pronunciation.

4. An ideal alphabet would seek to adopt for its characters forms which should suggest the sounds signified, and of which the resemblances should in some measure represent the similarities of the sounds. But for general practical use there is no advantage in a system which aims to depict in detail the physical processes of utterance.

5. No language has ever had, or is likely to have, a perfect alphabet; and, in changing and amending the mode of writing of a language already long written, regard must necessarily be had to what is practically possible quite as much as to what is inherently desirable.

6. To prepare the way for such a change, the first step is to break down, by the combined influence of enlightened scholars and of practical educators, the immense and stubborn prejudice which regards the established modes of spelling almost as constituting *the* language, as having a sacred character, as in themselves preferable to others. All agitation and all definite proposals of reform are to be welcomed so far as they work in this direction.

7. An altered orthography will be unavoidably offensive to those who are first called upon to use it; but any sensible and consistent new system will rapidly win the hearty preference of the mass of writers.

8. The Roman alphabet is so widely and firmly established in use among the leading civilized nations that it cannot be displaced: in adapting it to improved use for English, the efforts of scholars should be directed towards its use with uniformity and in conformity with other nations.

The report was accepted, and, on motion of Prof. Whitney, the Committee on the Reform of English Spelling was continued for one year, with Professor F. A. March as Chairman.

At the annual meeting in 1877, at Baltimore, the President, Prof. S. S. Haldeman, devoted a large part of his address to this subject, and we expect to present it in full, hereafter, to our readers. The committee made a further report, as follows:—

The attempt to prepare an English alphabet according to the principles laid down in the Report of last year brings out the following facts:—

1. There are eighteen Roman letters which commonly represent in English nearly the same elementary sounds which they represented in Latin: *a* (father), *b*, *c* (*k*, *q*), *d*, *e* (met), *f*, *g* (go), *h*, *i* (pick), *l*, *m*, *n*, *o* (go), *p*, *r*, *s* (so), *t*, *u* (full).

2. The consonant sounds represented in Latin by *i* and *u* are now represented by *y* and *w*, and the sonants corresponding to *f* and *s* are now represented by *v* and *z*.

3. There are three short vowels unknown to the early Romans which are without proper representatives in English, those in *fat*, *not*, *but*.

4. There are five elementary consonants represented by digraphs: *th* (*thin*), *th* = *dh* (*thine*, *then*), *sh* (*she*), *zh* (*azure*), *ng* (*sing*); to which may be added *ch* (*church*), *g* (*j*).

It seems best to follow the Latin and other languages written in Roman letters, in the use of a single sign for a short vowel and its long, distinguishing them, when great exactness is required, by a diacritical mark.

The alphabet would then have thirty-two letters.

Twenty-two of these have their common form and power as described above in statements 1 and 2.

The three vowels in *fat*, *not*, *but*, need new letters. Without laying any stress on the exact form, it is recommended to try some modification of *a*, *o*, and *u*, such as *a*, *e*, *u*.

For the consonants now represented by digraphs new letters would be desirable, but no particular forms are now recommended. The following are mentioned:

ð, ð (then); þ, ð (thin); ʃ, ʃ (sh); ʒ (zh); ŋ (ng); ç (ch).

The use of these letters with only these powers and the dropping of silent letters will so change the look of large numbers of words that they will not be recognized at sight. It seems necessary therefore that there should be a transition period, and for that the following suggestions are made:—

1. Transition characters may be used resembling, if possible, two letters :

For <i>a</i> in <i>fate</i> ,	<i>a</i>	may be used in place of <i>ē</i> .
" <i>e</i> " <i>mete</i> ,	<i>ē</i>	" " " <i>ī</i> .
" <i>i</i> " <i>fine</i> ,	<i>î</i>	" " " <i>ai</i> .
" <i>u</i> " <i>pure</i> ,	<i>û</i> or <i>q</i>	" " " <i>iu</i> .
" <i>s</i> " <i>as</i> ,	<i>ā</i>	" " " <i>z</i> .
" <i>g</i> " <i>gem</i> ,	<i>g</i>	" " " <i>j</i> .
" <i>c</i> " <i>cent</i> ,	<i>ç</i>	" " " <i>s</i> .

2. The digraphs now representing single consonants may be named and otherwise treated as single letters.

3. New letters can be easiest introduced by using them only for the old letters which they resemble in form.

4. Long words bear changes best, and vowels are more easily changed than consonants, which project more above and below the line. Dropping final silent *e* is the easiest change.

On motion the report was adopted, no one dissenting.

This movement in the Philological Association has been attended by the reading of papers on special points of the reform, and has called out no opposition, or dissent.

At the annual meeting of the Spelling Reform Association, in 1877, at Baltimore, the Committee on New Spellings, Professors F. A. March, S. S. Haldeman, and W. D. Whitney, made a final report on the schemes of new letters and new spellings referred to them, which recited the action of the Philological Association, and reported for general use, and for the publications of the association, the alphabet therein set forth; and recommended the attempt to bring it into immediate use, in the manner set forth in the final suggestions of the report.

This report was adopted, no one dissenting.

Prof. Whitney, in his remarks to the Philological Association, spoke of the fact that new letters had heretofore been won to the Roman alphabet by setting apart two forms of the same letter each to one of two sounds before indicated by it. C and G in early Latin, I and J, V and U, in modern times, are examples; so we propose to separate *a* and *ā*, *u* and *û*, *o* and *ō*.

The so-called letters of transition are letters not needed in the ultimate alphabet proposed: *s* is a letter to be kept, and it has the same sound as *ç*, which should therefore ultimately give way to *s*. So *j* and *z* are established letters, *g* and *ā* are expedients to introduce common readers, without shock, to the

distinction they indicate; j and q are not both wanted in an ideal alphabet, one or the other will finally die out; so, in the opinion of the committee, is it with the ü = iu, j = ai, è = i, a = ê or ei; they think that full forms are best for diphthongs, that i will answer for both *pin* and *machine*, and that e is not wanted for *there*, *weight* or *they*.

The Alphabet.

All the vowels should be named by their sounds: c should be called kè, ç sè, g gè, q jè, h hè, a za, w wè, y yè. The digraph consonants should not be spoken of as two letters, but ch should be called ech, sh ish, th eth, dh thè, zh zhè, ng ing.

Letters of transition are in parenthesis, letters merely suggested are in brackets.

a	father, far.	ng [ŋ]	king, ink
a	fat, (fare).	o	no, obey.
(a) = ê	potato.	e	net, what, ner, wall.
b	bat.	p	pet.
c = k, q	cat.	(q)	(quit) cwit.
(ç) = s	çent.	r	rat.
ch [g]	church.	s	so.
d	did.	(s) = z	as.
e	met, thère, thèy.	sh [ʃ, fi]	shp, fugar.
(è, e) = i	mè, hè.	t	tell.
f	fit, filesofer.	th [p, b]	thin, author, pith.
g	go.	dh, th [d, d]	then, other, with.
(g) = j	gem.	u	full, rùle, fool.
h	hè.	(ü, u) = iu	müaic.
i	it, capriçe.	v	but, burn.
(i) = ai	frjar.	w	vat.
j	jet.	w	wo.
(k)	kin.	(x) = cs	wax.
l	lo, noble.	y	yè.
m	mè.	z	zone.
n	no.	zh [ʒ]	azure.

Diphthongs not mentioned: ei, cein; au = (ou), staut.

Script Forms of New and Transition Letters.

far,	Urm,	a	A
fat,	At,	a.	a. A
tabl,	Cabl,	a.	u
acid,	Cent,	c	c
Chureh	ch	[c]	Ch
me,	Era,	i	e b
chang,	Gem,	g	g
fryar,	Pron,	j	j j j
king,	ink,	ny	[ny]

o	O	not,	Or,
z	z	has.	haz.
sh.	[f]	Sh	she, sugar, Ship.
th	Th		loveth, Thin,
th	Th.		then, Thin,
ii	U		miisic, Us,
y	Y		mysee, Up
v	V		but, Vrn,
zh	[z]		azur

The above plates poorly represent the script characters, but rather than delay the publication of the Bulletin longer, they are used. They will give the idea of the form, and in another edition a handsomely engraved plate will take their place.

The ç as in church, instead of being looped like a ç should be made like a ç.

Necessary New Letters.

Some persons find they cannot read Bell or Pitman, and so come out against all new letters. We have no new letters in that sense: *a* is as old as *a*, *v* is older than *u*, *g* is as well known as *g*; every body knows *o* or *ç*. Printers can make up a full alphabet from old types with a pen-knife.

1. *a* is the common script and italic *a* with the curve righted. Printers may make it with a file or pen-knife by cutting off the upper stem of *d* (*a*), or the lower stem of *q* (*a*); or they can use italic or script *a*. Capital the same, or inverted *D* (*A*).

2. *a* needs a new script form. It may be made like the figure 2 with a lower left hand loop well opened, or like a looped *d*, or by making *z* as the left side of script *a* (*a*), or by adding a top to script *a*.

3. *o* is (*ö*) with the short sign dropped into it. Printers may use *ö* for it, or a small capital *q* or *e* inverted (*ö*), (*ə*). The script and the capital have the same form.

4. *u* is a round-bottomed *v*. Printers may use for it a small capital *u*, or may cut off the lower right hand curve of *u* (*u*), or the top of *o* (*u*). In script the round bottom is the essential thing. Capital *u* must now be made like small *u* (*u*),

5. *ch*, *dh*, *th*, *sh*, *zh*, *ng*, should be cast as ligatures, but printers can use separate types, and when the letters are sounded separately, put a hyphen between them (in-grate). In script *dh* may be made like *th*, only looping to the left the bottom of the *t*. A transition capital *Th* = *Dh* is needed.

Transition Letters.

1. *a* for *a* in fate is *e* with *i* added. It needs a new type. but printers may cut off the lower right-hand curve of *a* and invert it (*e*). Script is like the print. The capital has the same form.

2. *ë* for *e* in me is an *i* with a loop added. It needs a new type. Printers may use inverted *a* (*ë*). Script *e* is a dotted *e*. For a capital, file away half the right arms of *E* (*I*), or the right stem of *H* (*E*), or the upper arm of *F* (*E*).

3. *j* for *i* in mine is *ai* with the *a* subscript. It needs a new type. Printers may use inverted *r* (*j*). In script a loop will do for the subscript *a*. For a capital, file away the left stem of *H* (*I*), or file the upper right arm of *F*, and invert it (*j*).

4. *ü* is short for *iu*. Printers may use the common German letter, or *iu*. *y* is for *yu*. Printers can use inverted *h* (*y*). The capitals have the same forms. A cut *Q* (*Q*) may be use

5. ç has s subscript. The common French cedilla may be used, or 5 filed and inverted(q), or s. Capital the same.

6. q for g in gem may be distinguished in script by dotting g. Printers can use italic *g* or *j*. Capital the same, or (9).

7. z is a z without angles. The capital, if needed, has the same form. Printers may file the angles of z.

It will be noticed that there are several steps mentioned in the introduction of the new spelling. Among them are: (1) The use of new letters for those which they resemble in form, leaving the old spelling in other respects unchanged; (2) The dropping silent letters, especially final *e*; (3) Complete phonetic spelling. The following extract will illustrate the first and third of these, and the rest of this paper will be printed, so as to illustrate the joint effect of the first and second. In pronunciation we follow the old authorities. We amend ORTHOGRAPHY, not ORTHOEPY. Difficulties arise, as with the articles *a* and *the*, and many unaccented vowels, with *ask*, *pass*, *after*, and the like, and with *fare*, *there*, and the like. As to all such consult Webster and Worcester.

The Predigal Sun. — Luke xv. 11-20.

New letters üad only for thos Webster's Pronunshiasun in
they rëasembl in form. thë alfabet ev thë Asoshiasun.

11. A çertain man had two suns: 11. A çertün man had tu suns:

12. And thë younger ef them said to his father, Fathur, give më thë portion ef gooda that falleth to më. And hë divided unto them his living. 12. And thë yunggur ev them sed tu his fathur, Fathur, giv më thë porshun ev guda that feleth tu më. And hë divided untu them his living.

13. And net many days after, thë younger sun gathered all together, and took his journëy into a far country, and there wasted his substance with rjotous living. 13. And net meni das aftur, thë yunggur sun gathurd el tugethur, and tuk his jurni intu a far cuntri, and ther wasted his substanc with rjutus living.

14. And, when hë had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land, and hë began to be in want. 14. And, hwen hë had spent el, ther aroa a mïti famin in that land, and hë bigan tu bë in went.

15. And hē went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and hē sent him into his fields to feed swine.

16. And hē would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

17. And, when hē came to himself, hē said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger.

18. I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee,

19. And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

20. And hē arose and came to his father. But when hē was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion on him, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

15. And hē went and joind himself tu a citizen ov that cuntry, and hē sent him intu his fēlds tu fed swin.

16. And hē wud fan hav fild his beli with the husks that the swin did et: and no man gav untu him.

17. And, hwen hē cam tu himself, hē sed, Hou meni hird servants ov mj fathur's hav bred inuf and tu sper, and I perish with hunggur.

18. I wil aris and go tu mj fathur, and wil sa untu him, Fathur, I hav sind ogenst hevn and bifor the,

19. And am no mor wurthi tu be celd thi sun; mak me as wun ov thi hird servants.

20. And hē arose and cam tu his fathur. But hwen hē was yet a grat we of, his fathur se him, and had compashun on him, and ran, and fel on his nec, and kist him.

To Radical Reformers.

It will be seen from this setting forth of the reports, that the committee have thought it necessary to determine first the ideal alphabet, that all particular changes may be made with reference to it. *Could* is a standing example of unpardonable spelling; the *l* is sheer blunder, the *ou* has a wrong sound. Shall we write *cud*, *cood*, *kud*, *koed*, *cud*, or what? Before we can tell we must fix our ideal English alphabet. Reformers who think it best to make no compromise, but to begin at once with perfect phonetic spelling, can here find their alphabet, and go right to work with all their might, in full harmony with the association and

with the scholars of all countries. When the committee leave a choice between two characters for any sound, as they do between *c* and *k* and between the characters mentioned for *ch*, *th*, *dh*, *sh*, *zh*, *ng*, each reformer is desired to choose for himself; all will be found to work in harmony. It is to be hoped they may be a great host of the leaders of the van, and that they will bestir themselves mightily in urging on the rest of us laggarda. Let them abuse us roundly, if they like, and cudgel and drive us as well as cheer and lead us.

Proposition 3d, in the committee's first report, is worthy of special attention from these leaders. Perfect popular alphabets cannot attempt to distinguish every nicety of articulation. Scientific notation for the study of phonology is a different matter. Do not refuse to use the alphabet of the Association because you can distinguish shades of sound which it does not; of course you can. Mr. Ellis's 300 letters and more are well known to the committee. But such nicety is not needed for common printing. Scholars are well agreed as to the number of sounds which really need to be distinguished. Sum, we know, will, after all, think them ought to be separate signs for each long and each short vowel, even in popular print. Such will see that our transition letters give them their long vowels, except *e* in *ner*, *u* in *burn*, and *u* in *rule*. For these we suggest to those who will not use an accent or Parkhurst's modifications, the Pitman *σ*, small capital *u*, and inverted *m*.

Gradual Progress.

It will be seen that the committee did not stop with the comparatively easy task of telling what we want. Reform is a gradual advance. Means of hastening the general progress have been earnestly sought. Such means have been found, partly in leaving untouched certain consonant digraphs already established in use for elementary sounds, partly in the use of new letters of such form as to be recognized without special instruction, and partly in laying down principles according to which methodical progress may be made in introducing new letters and dropping old. In the invention of new letters the besetting sin is ingenuity. There is a fatal facility in thinking of nice little curves and angles and dots. But every thing must be of the simplest for the use of the masses. The Roman alphabet masters the world, because, for one thing, there are no ingenuities about it. It admits only a few great plain movements of the pen. It is thought the new letters here suggested are fairly in harmony with the old.

Proper Order of Changes.

NEW LETTERS. — For readers the introduction of new letters is the easiest change. Printers do the work for them. It is advised to use new letters at first only for the old letters which they resemble in form. We are now illustrating this way of using them. It is not necessary, however, to use them all. Printers are urged to use one or two, if they think more or dangerous. Most important are *e* and *v*, then *a*. New *g* for *g* with the sound of *j*, may be used without disturbing the most fastidious; so may *ç* and *ë*. Let them be tried. Send for the types, or, if you fancy, you can make a supply of *v*, *a*, *e*, with pen-knife or file in a few minutes. Neither is dependent on the others; every one used is clear gain.

DROPPING LETTERS. — Writing is a different matter from reading. Old muscular habits interfere with new letters, or any other changes in writing. Children will learn the new as readily as the old; but for grown persons, the easiest changes, on the whole, are the dropping of silent letters. One can easily tell when he is through a word. Vowels are easiest among final letters, and among vowels, *e*. Final *e* has several grades. When silent after a short vowel it is both wasteful and blunder; *hav* spells the word intended; *have* should rhyme with *gave*, *slave*, *knave*, etc.; *genuin* spells the word, *genuine* is a vulgar corruption. Long words bear changes better than short words. So that we have the following order for dropping silent final *e* and other silent letters: —

I. FINAL SILENT E.

1. With short preceding vowel. (a) In long words: practicable, accessible, imbecile, periwinkle, medicine, treatise, recompense, hypocrite, infinite, indicative. Many hundreds of words belong to this class, in great part learned terms from Greek or Latin, and common to many languages. To scholars they look more natural and scholarly, as most languages write them, without the final *e*. (b) In short words: *hav*, *liv*, *giv*.

2. With long vowel preceding. (a) The long sound represented by two letters in the old spelling: *frontispiece*, *peace*, *voice*, *release*, *believe*, *perceive*, *praise*, *poise*, etc. (b) The long sound represented by a single letter in old spelling: *imbibe*, *glob*, *popular*, *suffice*, *undertake*, *provoke*, *confiscate*, *constitute*, *persecute*, and hundreds more.

It will be seen that there are degrees of difficulty in parting with silent *e*; but on the whole it is simplest never to write it. Everybody can understand that.

Drop it also in plurals and other inflections: infinitive, representative, give, live, compel, etc.

II. T FOR ED.

Another easy chang common in old English, and agen becoming so, is to writ *t* fer *ed*, when it is so pronounc't: *kist*, worshipt, lasht, imprest, approacht, etc.

III. OTHER LETTERS.

Fer further suggestiona we add the following from a report mad to the Philadelphia meeting:—

1. Omit final *ue* in catalog, cellbag, harang, &c.
2. Omit *a* from the digraf *ea* when pronounc't as *e*-short: hed, heven, helth, welth, zealous, &c.
3. Omit *gh* when silent, and supply its plac with *f* when pronounc't as *f*: dauter, slaüter, beut, tho, altho, enuf, ruf, &c.
4. Writ *f* for *ph* in alfabet, fantom, camfor, filesofy, &c.
5. Writ *k* or *c* for *ch* in all words in which *ch* is pronounc't as *k*: arcitect, monarc, cemistry, caracter, crenicl, &c.
6. Omit *b, c, d, f, g, h, k, l, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, w, z, ch, rh,* and *th* when silent, as in the following exampla:—
 - b* in eb, det, lam, lim, &c.
 - c* in abses, absind, acquies, coales, efferves, sent (scent), septer, simitar, sjon (scion), vitla, &c.
 - d* in Wensday, ad, od, &c.
 - f* in buf, bluf, clif, muf, scef, stif, &c.
 - g* in apothem, arrain, campain, narl, nash, naw, eg, &c.
 - h* in gost, agast, gastly, rijm, rubarb, retoric, burg, &c.; onest, enor, our, &c.
 - k* in nêe, nêad, nêel, nij, nec (knock), &c.
 - l* in bom (balm), cam, pam, sam (psalm), shal, wel, &c.
 - m* in nemenic, &c.
 - n* in Autum, cendem, dam, selem, hym (hymn), &c.
 - p* in nûmatic, nûmonia, sam (psalm), sûdonym, &c.
 - r* in bur, er, pur, &c.
 - s* in appropo, il (isle), iland, il (aisle), vîcount, &c.; bras, ges (guess), fulnes, &c.
 - t* in brunet, dêpo, glisen, lisen, ofen, mergag, bach (batch), lach, &c.
 - w* in hoop (whoop), sord.
 - z* in buz, fuz, &c.
 - ch* in dram (drachm), siam, sismatic.
 - ph* and *th* in tizic (phthisic), ismus, &c.
 - rh* in catar (catarrh), &c.
8. Omit *a, e, i, o,* and *u* when silent, as in the words *siv* (seive), ferfit, counterfit, mullin, surfit, &c.; adiu, purliu, frend, plad; lepard; bild, gard, garantê, ges, gitar, biscit, condit, circit, dant, lanch, stanch, &c.
9. And chang *eau* to *o* in *bo* (beau), büro, &c.

BULLETIN

OF THE

SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Secretary's Office, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 3.

OCTOBER.

1877.

SPELLING. — For the alphabet see page 12. New letters are used for old which are like them in form; silent e final and in inflections is dropped. Proper names and a few other words receive special treatment. See July Bulletin.

The minutes of Proceedings, which were omitted in the July Bulletin in order to give a full account of the reports on the alphabet, will be given in this Bulletin, and then the news.

The April Meeting.

33 Park Row, N.Y., Apr. 28.

Mrs. Burns read a letter from Vice-president Jones, announcing the victory gained in the London School Board, that body having resolved, by a majority of twenty against three, to refer the question of spelling reform to a select committee.

Mr. Lindzey read several letters from prominent educators in the West, and a newspaper criticism, and called attention to the entire ignorance of the aims of the Association displayed in some recent articles. He thought little harm would be done by them on that account. The Secretary urged that they did great mischief, because they were read by those even more ignorant of the facts and who never saw the answers and, of course, got very false impressions. He instanced a recent magazine in which a burlesque spelling in one of the newspaper reports of the August

meeting was taken up and critically examined as the work of the Association. Its inconsistency was pointed out and made the main argument against the reform. Communications were presented, with extracts from the more important. Suggested methods submitted by various persons having raised the question, it was on motion voted that all communications, suggestions or plans pertaining to the new spellings be sent directly to the chairman of the committee, Prof. F. A. March, Easton, Pa., the Association to act on what was reported by the committee.

Mr. Parkhurst offered the following resolutions, which, after discussion, were referred to the Committee on New Spellings :—

Resolved, That we recommend to publishers of newspapers friendly to the spelling reform the adoption in such portions of their papers as they think best, of the plan adopted by Prof. March in his opening address, viz., the introduction of modified letters with invariable signification in the place of the corresponding Roman letters, the spelling remaining unchanged. When the reading public shall have become familiar with the appearance and signification of these new letters, it will be comparatively easy to adopt a fonetic alphabet and spelling.

2. We do not consider it essential that publications shall adopt the whole or any considerable part of the new letters, but regard the adoption even of one as so much progress in the right direction.

Mr. Parkhurst also offered resolutions embodying valuable directions to compositors in setting up new type.

Moved by Mrs. Burns, and adopted.

Resolved, That we recommend that an especial appeal be made to authors to examine into the merits of the spelling reform, that they may be induced to request their publishers to have their books printed in revised spelling.

A series of resolutions was adopted on the recent death of R. B. Taylor, editor of the Wyandotte (Kansas) Gazette, and for many years one of the most active workers in the cause of spelling reform.

In order to make it possible to transact business in the inter-

vals between the quarterly meetings, by-law 12 was adopted, as follows:—

12. Such resolutions as may receive by correspondence the unanimous vote of the president, the vice-presidents, the secretary, and the treasurer, shall go upon the records as the vote of the Board.

It was voted that we request the publishers' permission to use for the Bulletin extracts from the books of leading philologists endorsing the reform.

After discussion of the valuable service done to the cause by the "N.E. Journal of Education," it was unanimously voted that its offer of space for a Spelling Reform Department under the charge of the Association be accepted, and that it be made the official journal of the Association.

Mr. J. A. Völker then read an essay on the spelling reform, and after its discussion the meeting adjourned.

MELVIL DEWEY, *Secretary.*

The July Meeting.

The Spelling Reform Association met at 9 o'clock, A.M., July 13, 1877, in the Hall of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md., according to notice.

At the request of the President, Prof. March, Vice-president Prof. S. S. Holdeman, of the University of Pennsylvania, took the chair.

In the absence of Secretary Dewey, Prof. Barlow, of Lafayette College, was chosen secretary *pro tem*. The chairman called for the report of the Committee on New Spellings, Prof. March, chairman. It was read by Prof. W. D. Whitney, of Yale College, and was adopted; and the committee was continued. This report was a final report on the various schemes of new letters and new spellings which had been referred to the committee, and reported as final various changes in orthography for general use, and for the publications of the Association. It included the action of the Philological Association, and is given in full in the July Bulletin.

The old board of officers was re-elected, except that the resignation of Rev. D. P. Lindale having been offered and accepted, Prof. E. H. Barlow was chosen Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary.

After some remarks by Prof. Holdeman and others upon the importance of the movement, Prof. Webster, of Norfolk, Va., urged the necessity of doing something by committee or otherwise, in the way of preparing some primary books for school use. The chairman stated that this was in the hands of the Executive Committee. He also called attention to the importance of organizing branch associations.

The thanks of the Association were tendered to the Johns Hopkins University for the use of their hall. Adjourned.

E. HUBBARD BARLOW,
Secretary pro tem.

October Meeting.

33 Park Row, N.Y., Oct. 30, 1877.

Mr. Parkhurst was called to the chair, Mr. J. M. McKinley, Secretary *pro tem.*

Letters were read by the Corresponding Secretary, Prof. Barlow, and others.

Moved by Mrs. Burna, and adopted:

Resolved, That we recommend the friends of Spelling Reform to prepare short articles on interesting subjects, in any method of revised spelling they may prefer, and obtain the insertion of such articles in their local and other papers, for the purpose of awakening interest in the reform, and accustoming readers to fonetic print; and that we recommend the use, as far as practicable, of the system adopted by the Association at Baltimore.

Mrs. D. L. Scott Brown addressed the meeting in regard, especially, to the introduction, into Brown's Fonographic Journal, of new types, and articles in partially fonetic spelling.

Moved by Mr. Lindaley, and adopted:

Resolved, That all members of branch associations shall be

held to be members of the Spelling Reform Association, and shall each pay an annual assessment of one dollar.

Moved by Prof. Barlow, and adopted :

Resolved, That we request the Executive Board to devise and put in use additional methods of securing increased membership.

May 12, 1877, Mr. H. M. Parkhurst and Mrs. E. B. Burns completed their printed report of specimens of the different alphabets and mode of spelling suggested to the International Convention at Philadelphia, and copies of it have been submitted to the American Philological Association. It contains twenty-six phonotypic specimens, illustrating ten or more alphabets, and using types from fourteen foundries. Taken in connection with the explanatory details given in reports of the same committee to the Spelling Reform Association, dated Sept. 12 and Dec. 2, 1876, it affords a very full view of the present state of the matter, and is an exceedingly valuable document.

The East.

STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

At the annual meeting of the State Teachers' Association, held in Plattsburg, N.Y., in July last, a paper was read upon the subject of spelling reform by the Treasurer of the Spelling Reform Association, Prof. Barlow, at the request of Pres. Smith.

It was found that a very important and intense interest was developing among the teachers, many of whom had long thought upon the subject, and all of whom were gratified that so important and decided a step had been taken as the report of an alphabet by the Association.

Several members were added to the Association, and a committee, consisting of Professors J. E. Bradley, of Albany, James Johennet, of Ithaca, Chas. Chatfield, of Rye, Dr. J. W. Mearns, of Hamilton College, and J. Derman Steele, of Elmira, was chosen to ask the Legislature of New York to appoint a commission to inquire into the proposed reform, look-

ing towards its adeption in public decuments, and its use in public schools.

This committee is expected to take action during the coming session of the Legislature, and to report at the next meeting of the Teachers' Association in July, 1878.

They have the cordial support of the most earnest teachers of this large and influential state, one of whom writes that he "finds teachers, without exception, in favor of the reform," and that he believes it to be "the most important educational movement of the century."

This subject of branch associations was discussed, and it is hoped that much local interest will in this way be excited and fostered.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE OCTOBER MEETING.

Prof. Edward A. H. Allen, of Sherborn, Mass., expresses a growing interest in the subject as connected with the art of teaching to read. Children welcome a phonetic method, and teachers are ready to adopt a rational system as soon as one can be agreed upon by the leaders in this movement. What is needed is actual work among the young, freedmen or foreigners. Such a tangible argument will convince thousands who cannot be reached by the most logical plea. There needs, then, first, a suitable alphabet; second, a school primer; third, a suitable trial of it by school authorities and teachers who believe in this method of carrying out the reform. Prof. Allen presented an alphabet at the annual meeting of the Middlesex County Teachers' Association as part of a report on alphabetic reform, and he sends a copy of it to the Association for criticism. It has been printed in the New England Journal of Education (May 3, 1877). Prof. Allen adds that the sentiment in his vicinity would be averse to Ellis' Glossic, or other digraphic scheme; but would much more readily accept a purely phonetic alphabet, — for school purposes, — and this once firmly established in schools would slowly but surely work its way into general use.

This call for elementary books — primers, readers, and writ-

ing-books — is repeated by Miss M. J. Smith, of Mentiçello, Iowa, for the teachers of that vicinity.

Rev. J. Colver Wightman, of Taunton, Mass., writes that they have had a lecture in Taunton, and distribution of decuments, and that "spelling by the sounds" has been introduced into all the primary schools. He thinks that the first innovation should be the use of simple characters instead of the digraphs. 1. They present the easiest approach to a right system. 2. They escape the appearance of illiteracy. 3. They are labor-saving; diacritic marks can never be popular among Americans. 4. They are economical for printers and publishers. 5. They can be introduced into schools as an aid to teachers where no innovations on the established orthography would be tolerated.

In Taunton the reform is rapidly progressing, and there is no opposition.

The North-west.

In the month of August, 1877, at Chicago, Illinois, the Adams, Blackmer, and Lyon Publishing Company, O. C. Blackmer, President, began to introduce the alphabet of the Spelling Reform Association into their widely circulated periodical, "The Little Folks."

In the numbers of the first and second weeks of August *o* was used: in those of the third and fourth weeks *u* was added; in the September numbers *j* and *e*; and in the October, *a*, *q*, *ç*, and *ü*. These letters are used in place of the Roman letters which they resemble in form, and the spelling is left unchanged. The publishers have heard no complaints.

The South-west.

Mr. T. R. Vickroy, of 1117 North 25th street, St. Louis, writes to the October meeting that he completed the invention

of a fonetic alfabet in Dêçember, 1876, had a fent fôr it ready early in Jûne, 1877; read a paper on it befor thê Soçjety of Pedagogy; publisht it in "Thê Western" and in pamflet; and has sinç publisht many lik artichs in papera and magazins, — eight or ten of one to two cêlums in thê "St. Louis Daily Tîmea," two of two cêlums in thê "American Journal of Edü-cation," in thê "Edücational Wêekly," of Chicago, and in thê "Printers Çircûlar;" hê has also had his alfabet, with Leng-fellow's "Psalm of Lîf" put into eighty country papera; hê has also approacht a larg number of persons both by letters and personal interviewa, and interestèd them on this subject; hê has also publisht a fonetic primer, and "invented" script fôrms to go with his alfabet. Hê suggests thê ôrganizing of a branch in St. Louis, and holding thê Janüary mêtting ther.

England.

FIRST RESPONSE FROM THE OLD COUNTRY.

[*"The Academy," London, for Sept. 8, 1877.*]

In an artich on thê Nînth Annüal Session of thê American Philological Assoçiatiôn, held at Baltimore, Prof. Haldeman presiding, "Thê Academy" says:—

"Thê interest of thê session, however, chiefly çentered round Prof. March's report on Spelling Refôr. Thê Cômmitte appointed to consider thê question hav now arrivd at practical results. Thê retentiôn of thê Roman letters is advocated, thê differênç between vowels bëing indicated by diacritical marks, and thê alfabet bëing thus incréast to thirty-two letters. Of thêsa, twenty-two would preserv their present fôr and power; but thrê nêw characters ar nêded to express thê vowels in *fat*, *not*, and *but*, and thê üs of digrafs is considêrd objection-
abl. As ther would bë a transition-pêriod between thê discon-tinüanc of thê old system of spelling and thê general adoptiôn of thê nêw, it is suggested that (1) transition-letters should bë üad, resembli, if possibl, two letters; (2) digrafs now repre-sentiing singl sounds should bë namd and üad as singl letters; (3) thê nêw letters should resembli thê old as far as may bë; and (4) leng worda and vowels should bë regarded as bearing
chang best."

In conjunction with this report, a Bulletin of the Spelling Reform Association has appeared, published last April, containing an able address by the vice-president, Prof. Haldeman. In it he remarks that:—

“As a whole, English spelling has never been permanent, and innovators have been constantly met by protestors. In England the exclusive right to publish Bibles was given to Oxford; and when ameliorations began to appear at the Oxford press, a strong and learned protest was issued at London, in 1682—an anonymous pamphlet of ten pages, entitled ‘Friendly Advice to the Corrector of the English Press at Oxford Concerning English orthographie.’ The learned author sets the argument in a strong light, yet most of the innovations objected to have been adopted even by the objectors of to-day.”

It is satisfactory to find the matter so energetically taken up and supported by the leading philologists and educationalists of America, and we can have little doubt that their efforts will eventually end in success. It may be mentioned that a large publishing firm in Chicago has offered to cast the new letters recommended by the Spelling Reform Committee, and use them at once in all their publications.

The London Conference.

The statesmen of England undertook to educate the people when they gave them the right of voting a few years ago. The highest point attempted in the new schools was that the pupil should be able to read with tolerable ease and expression a passage from a newspaper, and spell the same with tolerable accuracy. They turn out about 200,000 annually who have been through the course. Ninety per cent of these leave without reaching the standard just mentioned. The other five grades lower. Eighty per cent fall short of the fifth grade, and sixty per cent fall short of the fourth. The bulk of the children therefore pass through the government schools without learning to read and spell tolerably. It is calculated that the country pays for this annually £3,500,000. The time and money which were to have educated the new masters of England are wasted in a vain attempt to teach them to read and spell. It is fully recognized that the trouble lies in the irregular and unreasonable spelling of English. Welsh boys pick up Welsh, and German boys German, without formal teaching of spelling. They read right off as soon as they learn their letters. How to remove this difficulty, how to reform English spelling, is getting to be fully recognized in England as a great problem of social science and of statecraft.

manship. Members of Parliament and dignitaries of the universities give it anxious thought.' In 1876, the National Union of Elementary Teachers, representing some ten thousand teachers in England and Wales, passed almost unanimously a motion in favor of a Royal Commission to inquire into the subject of English Spelling with a view to reforming and simplifying it. The School Board for London took up the matter and issued a circular asking others to unite in an address to the Education Department in favor of it. The Liverpool and Bradford Boards had acted before and more than 100 other Boards returned favorable replies.

Tuesday, May 29, 1877, a conference was held in London, at which the Rev. A. H. Sayce, Professor of Philology, Oxford, presided, and in which the President of the Philological Society, H. Sweet, Esq., the Vice-President, J. H. Murray, LL.D., and ex-Presidents took part, as well as numerous dignitaries of church and state, leading schoolmasters and eminent reformers, including Mr. Pitman and Mr. Ellis. They spent a day and evening in harmonious discussion, and in listening to short addresses, and adopted a vigorous series of resolutions, which they appointed a committee to present to the Department of Education. The Convention was a great success, and called forth serious articles in the London Times, followed of course, when not preceded, by articles in the whole periodical press of Great Britain. A pretty full report is published as a pamphlet by F. Pitman, 20 Paternoster Row, E. C., London.

The most striking feature of the addresses is the frequent reference to America.

The opening address says:

"Our best hope comes from America. There are two classes in America interested in the cause of Spelling Reform, both of whom have considerable influence in the country. One of these consists of men like Professor Whitney and other members of the Philological Association, who have great wealth and the educated position of their countrymen; the other class consists of the German settlers in America, who complain of the time and energy wasted by their children in learning to read English."

Rev. Dr. R. Morris, who presided at the evening session, made up his address largely of quotations from Prof. Whitney and other American authors whom he did not name, but whom our spelling reformers will readily recognize, Prof. Holdeman, Wightman, and the rest.

Sir Charles Reed, LL.D., Chairman of the School Board for
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London, author of the report to Parliament on the Educational Exhibits in the Philadelphia Exhibition, 1876, occupied most of his very able address with an account of the improved mode of teaching reading in America, especially of Dr. Leigh's system, in favor of which he gave a great body of evidence.

Mr. Ellis also referred to Dr. Leigh, and the energetic Vice-president of our Spelling Reform Association, Mr. Jones, who was the Hon. Sec. and manager of the Conference, though he does not seem to have talked much about us, doubtless kept up a great thinking. The pamphlet has a further note on the progress of the reform in America.

There was no discussion of fonetic systems. The letters read express different opinions about the new alphabet. The liveliest is from Robert Lowe, M.P. Max Müller had asked, "Is there no statesman in England sufficiently proof against ridicule to call the attention of Parliament to what is a growing national misfortune?"

Mr. Lowe writes, (we give such spelling as he comes out for),

"I am not afraid of ridicule, and I have a strong opinion on the spelling question. I cannot be present at your meeting, but you are welcome to my opinion. There are, I am informed, 39 sounds in the English language. There are 24 letters. I think that each letter should represent one sound, that 15 new letters should be added, so that there be a letter for every sound, and that every word should begin as he speaks. I have been in the habit for many years of taking pains to read to me. I always take them from the sixth standard. They are unable to read aloud tolerably, and have no idea of the pronunciation of the language. The only remedy for this, in my opinion, is to teach the 39 sounds, together with the letter which represents each of them."

The Bishop of Exeter was of a different opinion. He wrote in common spelling as follows, if it may be permitted to transliterate into the most familiar alphabet of the kind which the Bishop approves (Mr. Jones's), applying it regularly, without attempting to conform to Mr. Jones's exceptions:

"Their are too few new characters, and only three introduced as few diacritical marks."

The reading of Mr. Lowe's letter was greeted with much applause.

The Alfabet of the Spelling Reform Association

Letters in () or duplicats, those in [] or illustrations belonging to the alfabet. In popular print only the vowels given as short and a, e or to be used. Short vowels pre-unaccented syllables. The simplest changes are (1) to the letters for old which are like them, (2) to drop final silent e

Vowels.

Short.	Long.
i..it.	ī = (ē) ..poliç, hē.
e..met.	ē = (a) ..thēy, potato, fē
a..at.	ā..fāre (in America).
ɑ..ask (see Dictionary).	ā..fār.
œ..net, what.	ē..nēr, wall.
o..wholly (in New England).	ō..nō, hōly.
u..but.	ū..būr.
u..full.	ū..rūle, fool.

Diphthongs: i = ai..liç; au = ou..stout; ei..oil; u (yu, iu) üits, müaic.

Consonants.

Surd.	Sonant.
p..pet.	b..bet.
t..til.	d..did.
ch [g] = tsh..church.	j (q) = dzh..jet, gem.
c (=k=q) ..cat, cwit (quit).	g..get.
f..fit, filofer.	v..vat.
th [p, b] ..thin, author, liveth.	dh, th [ð, ð] ..then, other
s = (ç) ..so, çent.	z (æ) ..aæ.
sh [f, fi] ..shē.	zh [ʒ] ..azhur.
wh..which (in England).	w..wē.
h..hē.	l..lo; r..rat; y..yē; m
	n..no; ng [ŋ] ..king, iŋ

Syllabic: l..nobl, noblæ; m..spazm, spazmæ; n..tokn, t

Note specially any marked paragraph.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

In answer to frequent inquiries, for reference of members, and to call attention where needed information is not given with applications.

Eligibility. — Any person, firm, organization, or periodical sympathizing with our object, — the simplification of English orthography, — may, on application with required fee, be enrolled on the list of members, and entitled to all the rights and privileges, the election being subject to ratification at the next meeting of the Executive Board. There are no qualifications of age or residence.

Privileges. — In addition to the ordinary rights of voting on all questions, and attendance at all meetings, public or private, each member will receive from time to time, suggestions for work in his own section, reports of experience in other places, and other matter of practical value. In attending meetings and conventions, members only have the privilege of reduced rates. Members also receive, without charge, and as fast as issued, one copy of each number of the Bulletin of the Association. This contains everything of special interest to friends of the reform, and is essential to all actively interested, as it groups together suggestions and information from all sections of the world. Each issue contains 16 pages, closely printed. Those not members pay \$1.00 per year, which is less than cost.

Duties. — There are no required duties, but each member is supposed to feel an added interest in the work that will lead him to do all he can to advance it. We expect any information or suggestion of service to other workers to be sent promptly to the secretary, to be combined with similar matter from other sources, and be briefed for the official Bulletin. The more active the cooperation, the better; but those who sympathize with the work, but are unable to give any time or actual service, should all the more contribute the influence of their names and their slight annual fee, with such additional pecuniary support as they are able to give.

Expense. — There is no fee for joining, but each member pays each year \$1.00 towards expenses. The main dependence for support is on life memberships (\$25.00), and on gifts. All who can, are urged to make such gifts, and to take the memberships, which free from annual assessments. As the interest on the \$25.00 is less than the annual fee, some prefer thus to pay in advance. Such payments are doubly valuable to the

Association. It is hoped that receipts from these sources will keep the required assessment very low, the design being to avoid pecuniary objections to membership.

Workers.—Some of our members have become such to show their interest and their willingness to pay a share of the necessary expenses, but are so situated that, personally, they do no work. We cannot afford to waste a single cent in postage or printing. We wish to make every item tell, and printed matter will be sent only to those who specially wish it.

A list has been opened, headed "WORKERS." To each person on that list will be sent, as fast as issued, one or more copies of each circular, placard, cheap chart, or other publication intended to be posted in prominent places, or given to develop interest. Those who request it, members or others, are enrolled as WORKERS, if they agree that all matter sent to them will receive their personal attention, and be put where it will do the most good; if a broadside, will be posted in a conspicuous place; if a circular, will be given to one likely to read and be interested; if a suggestion for work, will be read with attention, heeded if practicable, and at all events will not be wasted.

Matter sent is without charge, and any person, member or not, may be a WORKER without paying a cent.

We hope this list of workers will fill up rapidly, and our membership will be very largely represented. Requests should be, in substance, "I wish to be on the list of workers. Matter sent to me will do its full work, and none will be wasted."

A small package of documents will be mailed each applicant.

How to Join.—Send your name, full P.O. address, position, occupation, or any titles or degrees, that should appear for identification in a full list of members, and your fee for the current year (\$1). Your official certificate, entitling to all the rights and privileges of membership, will be returned. WORKERS sign a special application and receive a special certificate.

The Association year corresponds with the calendar. Assessments are due at the beginning of the year, and should be paid as early as convenient after January 1. While the fee for the current year properly accompanies applications, *never defer enrolment*. If not convenient to send the fee with the name send it later. Bulletins will be sent at once on enrolment.

The method of joining, eligibility, expenses, and duties have been so fixed that there is no excuse for withholding membership except indifference to the work. We therefore confidently hope for acceptance from all those to whom this invitation is sent.

MELVIL DEWEY, Secretary.

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P.O. 260, Boston.

SPELLING REFORM STATIONERY.

At the International Convention a committee (President March, Vice-President Haldeman, and Secretary Dewey) were appointed to prepare, for the use of the members and others interested, note, letter, envelope, and card headings, which should attract favorable attention, and free the writer from any suspicion of bad spelling. Satisfactory headings could not be made until the American Philological and the Spelling Reform Association had adopted a complete scheme for the changes.

Now that this scheme is in print, the headings are offered, and urged for the largest possible use. Their influence has been proved most powerful, reaching and interesting people of all classes. Every friend can thus, without expense, do most valuable service to the cause. Prominent literary and business men have already adopted it, and made the way clear for those timid reformers who "fear it will be thought strange."

The price is made low by buying at the mill at jobbers prices, and printing before cutting up, and still a small profit is left the Association. Special inducements will be offered to those using large quantities, or buying to give away or sell again.

Any special sizes, qualities, or printings, at low rates, as manufacturers and printers interested in the reform have offered large inducements to us this stationery.

As no charge whatever is made for the reform printing, any part of an order sent unprinted must be at the same prices.

Superfine, 5 kilo paper, printed note-heads, 25c. per 100 sheets.

This paper is $12\frac{1}{2} \times 20$ cm. (5×8 in.), unruled. Ruled at the same price. Folded or double size, double price, 50c. Letter-paper, double note size, 50c. Folded letter, \$1.00. 1,000 sheets for price of 800. Printed postals, \$1.10 per 100.

Good envelopes, large enough for postal-cards, $8 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ cm. (No. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$), printed, 24c. per 100. Same size, 15 cm. (No. 6), 28c. per 100. Best white envelopes, $13\frac{1}{2}$ cm., printed, 32c. per 100. Same, large size, 15 cm., 36c. per 100. This is 6c., 7c., 8c., and 9c. per pack (25), including printing. 1,000 for price of 800.

If ordered by mail the postage will be deducted from remittance. Money must accompany orders. Packages, with sample of all the different headings, 15c. (5 green stamps).

None can be sent free. Business cards, addresses, or other extra matter printed at $\frac{1}{2}$ regular rates, 100, 15c.; 1,000, 80c.

All receipts from the sale of this stationery go into the treasury without commission. Some send more than the above prices, *e. g.*, as much as the same would cost elsewhere. Contributions, however small, are invited, and gratefully received.

Address, SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION, P.O. 260, Boston

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BULLETIN

OF THE

SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Secretary's Office, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 4.	JANUARY.	1878.
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SPELLING. — For the alphabet see page 14. New letters are used for old which are like them in form; silent e final and in inflections is dropped. Proper names and a few other words receive special treatment. See July Bulletin.

The January Meeting.

St. Louis, Jan. 17, 1878.

The fifth quarterly meeting convened at the session room of the board of public schools. John E. Kimball was elected Chairman, and T. R. Vickrey, Secretary. The opening address was delivered by Vice-President Professor Wm. T. Harris, LL.D., Superintendent of Schools in the city of St. Louis. He began by discussing the causes of the condition of our country so inauspicious to reforms for the purpose of realizing ideals, and continued as follows:—

And so it is, my friends, who have met here to express your interest in the spelling reform, that I have opened my address on this important theme by saying that we have come together at an inauspicious time for progressive reforms. And so much the more I congratulate you upon your bravery, which, undaunted by the downward rolling wheels of the car of time and undismayed by the chilly aspect of the civil and political storms now in the ascendant—has led you to come here and take part in this discussion upon a theme remote indeed from immediate food, cloth-

and shelter for ourselves and our fellow-citizens, but fraught with great possibilities of good for all who shall read and write the English language in future time. I heartily join you in a bold defiance of all baleful external influences. We will assert our unwavering faith in a good cause, even if our social and political atmosphere is darkened with sterility. When we look over large spaces of time we shall be reassured by the sight of real solid progress, which goes on under seeming retrogression. We are really nearer the possibility of a millennium of the settlement of national disputes by arbitration than we were in 1860.

Let us first of all address ourselves to the task of defining the evil which we are attempting to reform, and let us endeavor to make clear to ourselves the scope and significance of the movement of which this meeting is a manifestation.

The irregularities in English orthography or, as is well known, the cause of a wide departure on the part of our elementary education from what is in other countries where English is not spoken. In Germany or Italy the child can correctly spell any word he hears, or pronounce any word he sees, after he becomes familiar with the powers of the letters of his alphabet. Hence the foreigner spends a very small portion of time in learning his own language, while, if he would learn to spell our English language correctly, he must give years of study to it. And what is worst of all, this study is only an exercise of the memory and not a cultivation of the reason or of the power to think. There are few general principles or suggestive analogies to lighten the burden.

The American child must spend a large portion of his school days learning, one by one, the peculiar combinations of the written words of his language.

The Chinese have something similar in their education, but far worse. Their written language is imprisoned in a system of time-honored characters, each of which represents an entire word, or rather a related family of words. These characters have to be mastered by the inhabitant of China who would learn to write, by an effort of memory far more formidable than that undertaken by the English child. The effect of this alphabet (if such it may be called) upon the character of the Chinese is what should be expected. Of all races, the Chinese is the most prescriptive, the most given to following the beaten track marked out for him by his ancestors. That alphabet is of a piece with the Mongolian civilization, and furnishes a sort of iron mold which reacts upon the people—forcing them when young and plastic into prescriptive habits—obedience to external authority—compelling each one to rely upon his memory, and to seek his guiding principle in something external. *He begins his study of reading and writing by*

memorizing the shape of a complex sign for a word — perhaps like the drawing of a house, with its doors and windows in outline — and another sign equally complex for the second word, and so on until he has memorized several thousand of these characters before he can graduate as a scribe. He very naturally becomes a copyist in everything he does. The hand of Confucius reaching down through twenty-five centuries holds him firmly in the prescribed path.

The resemblance of the Anglo-Saxon to the Chinese extends beyond the matter of alphabets and mode of spelling, and affects character and habits, although in a faint degree. That the Anglo-Saxon has been the most successful of all modern peoples in working out the legal forms of civil and political freedom is no accidental circumstance in his history, but one that dwells in the inmost substance of his nature, and appears and reappears in his social and individual life, and in the means and appliances of his arts and usages. The English people, like the ancient Romans, or a will people rather than a people of intellect — they are practical rather than theoretical. The intellect amuses itself by the creation of ideas, and incessantly modifies these into others, and follows a dialectic series. The will, on the other hand, works in forms prescribed, or according to "precedent." What has been found a safe course of action is taken as a guide for the future. Respect for idiomatic peculiarities belongs to the same habit of mind.

Rome, the ancient law-maker for the world, molded her conquered provinces by the imposition of the forms of her will — by her equal laws. At Rome, the Pantheon rose as the architectural symbol of Roman dominion; the arch, in which each stone is supported by all the rest, and, in turn, is itself a means of support to the rest — each stone gaining its own individuality by respecting that of its neighbor — the arch is rounded into a dome in the Pantheon, which shelters the gods of all peoples. Like the dome of the sky, which covers indifferently all peoples and whose rain and whose sunshine descend alike upon the just and the unjust, so the Roman power extended over its provinces its equal laws.

It is not accidental that the prescriptive spirit which makes the Englishman the tip of idiosyncrasy to Continental Europeans, causes him to preserve an orthography full of original peculiarities, each word to some extent bringing the history of its individual fortune with it.

The charter of freedom, of equality before the law, and profound respect for individual rights, extends so far as to tolerate inconsistency and even absurdity. Thus broad and generous

principle end, strangely enough, with the preservation and encouragement of what is narrow and peculiar.

"The Constitution of England," as remarks a filosofic historian, "is a complex of many particular rights and special privileges. Hence the British Government is essentially administrative, that is, conservative of the interests of all particular orders and classes; and each particular Church, parochial district, county, society, takes care of itself, so that the Government, strictly speaking, has nowhere less to do than in England. This is the leading feature of what Englishmen call their liberty, and is the very antithesis of such a centralized Administration as exists in France, where, down to the least village, the *Maire* is named by the Ministry or other agents. Nowhere can people tolerate free action on the part of others less than in France. Then the Ministry combines in itself all administrative powers, although the Chamber of Deputies also lays claim to them. In England, on the contrary, every parish, every subordinate division and association has a part of its own to perform. Thus the common interest is participated in by all, and particular interests or all regulated so as to harmonize with the common interest. These arrangements, based on particular interests, render a general system of administration from a centralized head impossible.

As a consequence of this organized system of preservation and protection of what is particular and pertains to individual rights, we find among Anglo-Saxon people the lingering relics of very many customs and usages that utterly contravene what is just and reasonable. "The rights of primogeniture necessitating the purchasing of military or ecclesiastical appointments for the younger sons of the aristocracy" is an example in point. And more especially of interest to us here to-day is the heritage of a mode of spelling which is as full of idiosyncrasia and efficient protection against the sway of general rational rules as is the system of special laws which protects the British citizen in his individual and social "privileges."

Let us look more closely into this alphabet and system of spelling.

Mr. Latham, in his work on "The English Language," lays down the following six rules for a perfect alphabet and a perfect orthography:

1. That for every simple single sound, incapable of being represented by a combination of letters, there be a single sign.
2. That sounds within a determined degree of likeness be represented by signs within a determined degree of likeness; *whilst sounds beyond a certain degree of likeness be represented by distinct and different signs, and that uniformly.*

3. That no sound hav mor than one sign to express it.
4. That only one sound shall bē expressd by one sign.
5. That thē primary aim of orthograpy bē to express thē sounda of worda, and not thēir historia.
6. That changea of spēech bē followd by corresponding changea of spelling.

Bearing thēa lawa in mind, let us examin for a moment thē English langguag aa writn.

Thē Romanic or cōmmon alfabet consists of 26 lettera, which ar supposd to reprēsent, singly or cōmbind, all thē sounda in thē English langguag — 21 cōnsonants and 5 vowela. But thēr ar in thē English langguag, aa spokn, 12 vowela, 4 difthenga, 22 cōnsonants — 34 in all, excludiv of difthenga. Then thē Romanic alfabet must violat Latham's fourth law, that "only one sound shall bē exprest by one sign." Yes, aa Mr. Ellis haaz shown in his tabla appended to thē "Plēa for Fonetic Spelling," thē letter "a" haaz 7 sounda, "e" haaz also 7, "i" haaz 6, "o" haaz 11, "u" haaz 8, and "y," aa a vowel, haaz 3; an averag of 7 sounda to ēach of thēa simpl signa. But this would not bē bad wēr it *all*. Thē third law of Latham, that "no sound hav mor than one sign" is disregarded ēvn mor flagrantly. Thē vowel sound of ē, heard in "mēt," is rēprēsentēd by no fēwer than 40 different signa and combinationa of signa; ē, aa heard in "mate," by 34; o, in "mote," by 34 also.

In shōrt, if wē view thē alfabet in this light, it consists not of twenty-six lettera only, but of mor than 200!

Az Chambera remarka, in his "Papera for thē Pēopl," "wē violat every principl of a sound alphabetical system mor outrageously than any nation whatsoever. Our spelling can not bē mached for whimaical capric. If 'myrrh' bē *mir*, why not 'syrrh,' *sir*; 'through,' *throo*; 'tough,' *to*; 'bough,' *bow*; 'cough,' *cow*; 'noise,' *boise* for 'boys'; 'tongue,' *hongue* for 'hung'; 'quay,' *may* for 'me'; 'colonel,' *infolonel* for 'infernal'; 'neighbor,' *leighbor* for 'labor'?"

Thē word "scissors," it haaz bēen mathematically demonstratēd, can bē speld 596,580 different modā, and hav Romanic analogia to authoria ēach spelling! Som ar extravagant, aa *schies-sourrhce*, justifi'd by *schism*, *sieve*, *scissor*, *honour*, *myrrh*, and *sacrifice*.

Shakspēr mīt bē speld Schaighkespeighrrhe. Sheridan, thē author of an English pronouncēg dictionary, sayz: "Such is thē stat of our writn langguag, that thē darkest hieroglyphica, or most difficult ciphers that thē art of men haaz inventēd wēr nō better calculatēd to cōncēal thē sentiments of thōa who

them, from those who had not the key, than the state of our spelling is to conceal the true pronunciation of our words from all except a few well-educated natives." And Walker, in the preface to his pronouncing dictionary, says: "The orthography and pronunciation differ so widely that Dr. Watts and Dr. Jones lay it down as a maxim in their treatises on spelling that all words which can be sounded different ways must be written according to that mode which is the most distant from the true pronunciation."

But, unfortunately, no rule whatever can be made — not even that rule. It is confidently asserted that there are not one hundred words in the whole English language that are spelled according to phonetic principles.

This makes it an effort to the memory to learn the spelling of each word separately, and the following are the results:

1. It stands in the way of a sound, comprehensive national education. Hence the prevalence of illiterates.
2. No one is certain how to pronounce a word he has only seen written and never heard spoken.
3. No one is sure how a word is spelled which he has only heard pronounced, and never seen written.
4. It throws a barrier in the way of all sound and accurate philological research.

As confirmation of these principles, in England and Wales (according to the *British Quarterly Review*), in 1846, nearly one-half the people were unable to write their names, and five millions unable to read their mother tongue. In fact, there are at least five years as good as thrown away learning the mass of heterogeneous conventionalities dignified by the name of orthography, (the Greek word *orthos* and *grapho*), correct writing (?). Heterography has been suggested as a word which would more aptly express it, i. e. various writing.

If the phonetic alphabet were adopted, these five years would be saved, and could be devoted to useful science.

There would also result a uniformity of pronunciation, because all people would write just as correctly as they speak, and we should have the pronunciation of the best authors daguerrotyped for us. Another very weighty consideration is this, the child who is just commencing his education should have something consistent and logical, methodical and philosophical, to employ his mind, rather than something without either analogy or system; for these first impressions have sometimes the power to *change and fix the whole bent of the mind*.

It has been demonstrated by actual experiment that children will learn to spell the English language far more correctly, and in

one-half the time, by first learning to read in the fonetic way, which can be done in a few days.

Dr. Stone, of Boston, proved this several times.

The fonetic printing can be read by any person who can read ordinary reading almost as readily at first sight as the other. Hence there need be none of the books now in print thrown aside by reason of difficult orthography.

In this matter we of St. Louis can speak with positive experience. In the fall of 1866 the fonetic modification of the alphabet, as invented by Dr. Edward Leigh, was tried in one of our public schools as an experiment, and the following year it was adopted throughout the public schools of this city, where it has ever since retained its place. By this system the child has a perfectly fonetic alphabet in so far as "one sound for each character" is concerned, altho it violates the third law of Latham in having more than one character for the same sound. Yet, even with this, we find the following advantages in the system, which is still in use with us after ten years: —

1. Gain in time — a saving of one year out of the three years usually occupied in learning to call off easy words at sight.

2. Distinct articulation, the removal of foreign accent and of local and peculiar intonations.

3. The development of logical power of mind in the pupil. He can easily be taught to analyze a word into its sounds and to find the letters representing them, whereas, with the ordinary orthography it is an insult to his reason to assure him that a sound is represented by any particular letter. Hence, analytical power is trained instead of mere memory, from the day of his entrance into the school — and analytical power is the basis of all thinking activity.

As to the popular dread which lies under the proposed change of orthography, the introduction of a new language, there would not be so much difference between fonetic print and that ordinarily used now as there is between the English used now, and that of Spenser, and we can read him without much difficulty.

All foreign names, *e. g.*, geographical names, would then be easily reduced to a correct pronunciation, and missionaries could easily reduce unwritten languages to writing, a thing which has been tried with a fonetic alphabet with eminent success.

The disuse of silent letters will reduce the bulk of books one-tenth part, and save in the item of books millions of dollars per annum.

The English language, being an eclectic — *i. e.*, having chosen the strongest and best parts of other languages — is moreover the simplest in grammatical construction of any known. P

Grimm, the eminent German filologist, remarks; "Although the French language has for centuries been the common language of Europe in a diplomatic and social sense, yet it has never obtained a firm footing in large tracts of country beyond Europe.

"On the other hand, English may be considered the language of the world out of Europe, and this idiom (which, by a mixture of Gothic and Roman elements, and by a fusion of their grammatical forms, which this rendered necessary) has attained an incomparable degree of fluency, and appears destined by nature more than any other that exists to become the world's language. Did not a whimsical, antiquated orthography stand in the way, the universality of this language would be still more evident, and we other Europeans may esteem ourselves fortunate that the English nation has not made this discovery."

The German language, so well adapted to express metaphysical thought, and made so musical by a Goethe, still is lost in diversity of dialect, and can never become a universally adopted language, and scarcely even a national language.

Then the number of intelligent persons that one writes to is a consideration. As the Danish poet Oehlenschläger complains that who writes in Danish writes to two hundred readers. "In Germany," says Emerson, "there is one speech for the learned and another for the masses to that extent that it is said no sentiment or phrase from the works of any great German author is ever heard among the lower classes; but the English language is at the same time the language of the noble and the serf, the rich and the poor."

Their language seems to be drawn from the Bible, the common law, and the works of Shakspeare, Bacon, Milton, Pope, Young, Cowper, Burns, and Scott. The Abbe Sicard says: Of all languages, the English is the most simple, the most rational, and the most natural in its construction. These peculiarities give it a philosophical character, and, as its terms are strong, expressive, and copious, no language seems better calculated to facilitate the intercourse of mankind as a universal medium of communication."

But the question of a universal language is for us an idle one. The era of cosmopolitan culture will gradually reduce all languages to one, not by exclusion, but by inclusion. A well-educated man finds help in expressing himself by words and idioms from a variety of languages. For each language has its special aptitudes of expression—the totality of thought, as it were, cut up *into pieces by language*, each piece being a word or an idiom. *No two languages have covered exactly the same conceptions of thought by single words.* What the German expresses by this

word "*von*" we hav to express by "from" and "by." "*Zweck*" we express by "end and aim," and by "final causa." Somtīma we find a word in one language which has no equivalent expression in another, for the reason that it has not been thought by the writers of that language. Somtīma, too, a word in one language covers the provinç of a portion of several others in another language.

Hence the man of general culture finds us for all languages.

There are three or four objections urged against the fonetic movement, which we will consider before we close.

The first is, that if the fonetic alphabet were adopted, all books now printed would be valueless and illegible. We have already anticipated this argument by asserting that there is less difference between fonetic and Romanic now than there is between the Romanic of now and that of Spenser.

The second objection urged is this:

Those who read now would have the trouble of learning over again. To this I reply, that it does not take ten minutes to read the fonetic system proposed if one can already read Romanic. It is objected that we cannot distinguish between such words as "due," *dew*; "ale," *ail*; "awl," *all*; "bade," *bad*, etc.; but we find no difficulty in conversation in distinguishing them by the context, and we rarely should have more difficulty in reading them; while another class of words, such as *read*, present tense, and *read*, past tense; *row*, and *row* (with an oar) will be relieved of their present ambiguity.

There is another objection brought against the fonetic system, viz.: That it would so obscure the etymology of words as to render it impossible to distinguish them from the words spelled fonetically. But the great philologists depend upon fonetic analysis in their profound investigations into the primitive state of a language; and the philologist knows that it would be of exceeding value to know that a nation used a fonetic alphabet; for then one could immediately determine the pronunciation which gets lost as the nation changes.

If a fonetic basis had always been used, we could tell now exactly how Shakspeare pronounced his living words, or how Chaucer read his "*Canterbury Tales*."

But suppose we could not determine the etymology as well as before? Or we to consume five years in the life of every youth just to make it easier for one scholar in a thousand men (there are hardly so many as that, even), to save him the trouble of consulting his copy of a dictionary? But there is no basis of argument here, for *fonetypy* restores and reveals three analogies of language where it obscures one. Dr. Franklin, in 1767, favored the idea

a fonetic alfabet, and answerd all the objections very plainly in a letter to Miss Stevensen. He says:—

“The objecshun yu mak tu rectifyng our alfabet, ‘that it wil be atended with inconveniencis and difficultia,’ is a nachural wun, for it elwaes ocure hwen a reformashun is proposd, whethur in religiun, guvernement, or lea, evn down tu roda and hwel cariages.

“The tru cweschun, then, is not hwethur ther wil be no difficultia or inconveniencis, but hwethur the difficultia ma net be surmounted, and hwethur the conveniencis wil net, on the hol, be gratur than the inconveniencis. In this cas the difficultia or onli in the begining of the practiç. Hwen tha or wunç overcum, the advantages ar losting. Tu ethur yu or me, hu spel wel in the present mod, I imagin the difficulti of changing that mod for the nü is not so grat but that we müt perfectly get ovur it in a wëk’s riting. As tu thoa hu du net spel wel, if the tu difficultia ar compard,—viz., that of tæching them the nü alfabet, and the nü speling acording tu it—I am confident the later wud be far the best. Tha nachurali fel into the nü method elredi as much as the impurfecshuna of ther alfabet wil admit of; ther present bad speling is onli bad becøa contrary tu present bad rulæ; undur nü rula it wud be gud. The difficulti of lurning tu spel wel in the old wa is so grat that fü aten it, thousanda and thousanda riting on tu old, old ag without evur being abl tu acquir it.”

The origin of the present Association is dü to that respectabl body, the American Philological Association.

Net willing to recommend and support such sweeping changes as the foneticians of thirty years ago recommended and supported to no purpos, they hav adepted a report setting forth certain slight modifications, which may be adepted without incurring any of the objections usually mad, whil they cover all of the essential advantages.

The committè to whom was intrusted the selection and recommendations of modifications in letters and orthograpy consisted of Messrs. F. A. March (one of the leading Anglo-Saxon scelars of the world today, who has appljd Bepp’s method and principla to our parent tung), W. D. Whitney (well known in both hemisfera as the great comparativ filelogist and Sanskrit scelar), and S. S. Holdeman (long distinguisht as comparativ filelogist and investigator of our Indian languagea).

Whil, in our discussions her we shall profit most by the presentation of original systems of reaching a fonetic alfabet (for

we hav with us the authors of two noteworthy attempts to reach this basis), it is clear, as a principle, that no success will accrue to our movement until there is unity and harmony among our spelling reformers as to just what steps are to be taken first. There must be a sacrifice of individual views in order to achieve one solid success. It is very certain, too, that the first step must be a short and easy one. When we have succeeded once in getting a single modification adopted, the ice is broken, and the remaining steps to a phonetic alphabet are easy enough.

Within the last century the Spanish and the Netherlanders have altered their orthography, the former reaching a phonetic basis by their modifications.

Now that our philologists have started this question, our colleges and universities will follow the lead, and it certainly will not be impossible for the higher institutions of education in this country to modify our orthography within a few years.

Mr. T. Vickrey read an address upon "An improved English Alphabet," in which he set forth the principles of the Reports on that subject by the committee of the American Philological and the Spelling Reform Association, and illustrated them by an alphabet of his own invention, in harmony with these principles. His characters resemble those recommended by the committee in all essential particulars, but are more ingenious and elaborate, so that, although the difference is not very marked in many of the characters, the effect of a paragraph is quite unlike. The alphabet has been printed in the Journal of Education and the St. Louis newspapers. It was referred to in our October Bulletin. Mr. J. S. Stephenson presented a paper on "A Diacritical Modification of the Old Alphabet," which attracted favorable attention.

The last session was devoted mostly to a discussion of the best course to introduce improved spelling. Mr. Lingley, of Cincinnati, made an address on that subject. The only feasible plan, he thought, is to spend money, publish works in the alphabet, and scatter them about the land. An energetic publisher, with even but little money, can do more in molding the language than theoretic associations, or than Congress. He thought the Americans should adopt Isaac Pitman's system. This led to a general expression of opinion, and to extended remarks by Mr. Vickrey and Mr. Harris in favor of following the lead of "the foremost philologists and scholars of the United States;" and, finally, the following resolution was passed almost unanimously:—

"Resolved, that this convention intersees the plan of spe

reform recommended by the American Philological Association and the National Spelling Reform Association."

The Convention finally formed itself into a permanent Branch of the Spelling Reform Association, which will hold monthly meetings.

This Convention was introduced by articles in the leading journals of St. Louis, giving the history and purpose of the Association. The addresses were printed in full, and the discussions reported at length. There was a good general attendance and lively interest. There is every promise of great things from St. Louis.

The American Philological Association have issued "The Proceedings" of the July meeting, containing the report of the Committee on New Spellings, which was given in full in our July Bulletin; also an abstract of President Holdeman's Address and a paper on "Assibilation," by Mr. Wightman. The Association have had two fonts of the new types cut to match those used in the "Proceedings" and in "The Transactions," and papers will be printed in both in any spelling which authors of each may adopt in harmony with the reports.

Mr. O. C. Blackmer, of Chicago, has printed a very neat edition of the Reports of the Philological Association's Committee, with explanations of the new letters in print and script, and illustration of their uses, making four pages.

"The Little Folks" go steadily forward. The numbers for November, December, and January use e, v, i, o, a, o, c, u, and q.

ENGLAND.

Deputations from the London School Board and 131 other Boards and the Society of Qrts, waited on the Lord President of the Council, Jan. 18, according to the plan described in our October *Bulletin*, to urge the Government to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the reform of English spelling in the interests of education. They were introduced by Sir Charles Ried, chairman of the London Board, who stated briefly *what they were and what they wanted*,—a commission of inquiry, *not the adoption of any system*.

Mr. Gladstone said that the progress of children in England

compard unfavorably with that made in other countriz, and this he ascribd to the irregülaritie of our spelling.

Dr. R. Morris, former president of the Philologial Society, read rezolütions of the Society of Qrts. "1. That as the length of tîm now found neçessary to teach children in elementary schools to read and writ the English language with eaz and correctness, is attribütabl in a great measür to the difficultie of the present mod of spelling, it is adviçabl for the promotion of education that som chang should be effected in order to remedy the evil. 2. That, as much of the current spelling of English is at varianç both with etymology and pronunçiation, ther is further reason why a thorough revision should be effected. 3. That, as no chang would be effectüal, unless the amended spelling wer accepted by school inspectors, çivil-serviç examinations, and public departments, sid by sid with the present spelling, the assistanç of government will be requird."

Dr. Angus and Mr. Rathbone, M.P., for Liverpool, Mr. Richard, M.P., for the Welch schools, and Mr. A. J. Ellis, F.R.S., further urjd similar topics.

The Lord Prezident, the Düke of Richmond and Gordon, in his reply, spok very emfatically of the importanç of the subject. "It is of such vast importanç and so largj extent," he said, "that it would not be dealt with in any satisfactory way other than by the Crown being advjcd to issü a cömmission to inquire into the matter." He mad no promises, but we may now sürly announce that the question of spelling reform is fairly enrolld among the great questions of soçial sçienç in the minds of the statesmen and filosofers of Great Britain.

Mr. A. J. Ellis read a paper on "Orthograpy in relation to Etymology and Literatür," befor the Colleg of Preçceptors, Oct. 17. It was printed in the "Educational Times," Dec. 1, 1877, and in a pamphlet, which may be had for 6d. It is a thorough exposition of the whol matter, in a wjd rang of languages, the English first and foremost. All readers about spelling reform should *send for it to Melvil Dewey, Box 260, Boston.*

ALFABET OF THE SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Imitation in Common Typs.

Letterz unchangd: a (fat, fare), b, c=k=q, ch (church), d, e (met), f=ph, g (go), h, i (it), j (jet, jem=gem), l, m, n, ng (sing), o (no), p, r, s (so), sh (shē), t, th (thin, author, pith), u (full, rule), v, w (wet), x, y (yet), z, zh (azhure=azhur).

New Letterz.

Lower case.

a, (arm), cut d or q, arm.
 a, (able), invert a, eble.
 ē, (mē), cut and invert a, mē.
 i=ai, (līon), invert i, līon.
 o, (nōt, or), invert e, nēt, ēr.
 u or ü=yu, iu (qnit, müzic), invert
 h, qnit, mūzic; or üz yu
 and iu, yunit, miuzic.
 u (but, burn), cut u, but, burn.
 dh, th, (then, other, with), cut f,
 fhen, ofher, wifh.

Capitala.

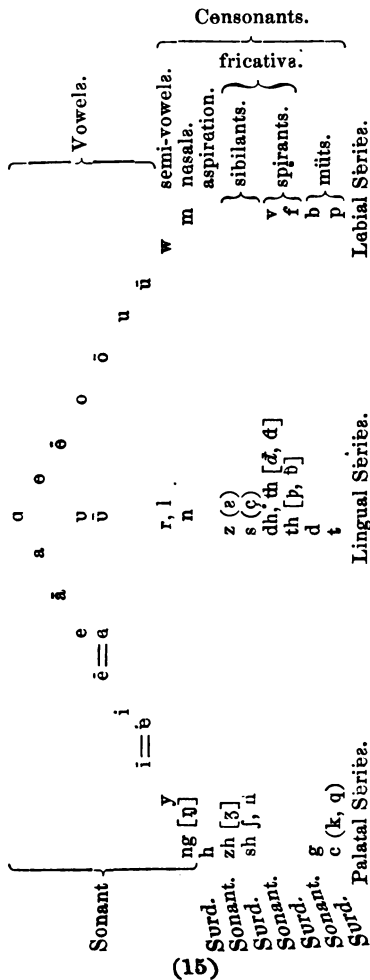
Q, invert D, Qrm.
 Q, ligature, Aëble.
 E, cut E, Era.
 I, cut H, Iron.
 O, invert Q, Or.
 U, cut Q, Qnit; or
 Yunit.
 Urn.
 T, cut T, Then.

The following, containing all the English sounds, is printed with common typs prepar'd as abuv. It is in pūr fonetic spelling according to Webster's pronunçiatiön:

Bī fhr fonetic alfabet a child mē bē tēt fhr art əv rēding, nēt flūentli but wel, both in fonetic and in ərđineri bucs, in thrē mōnth—ai, əfn in twenti ȳurz əv thuro instruçshun;—a tasc hwich iz rarli acēmplisht in thrē yērz əv tēil bī fhr old alfabet. Hwæt fathur or trēhur wil nēt gladli hēl and urnestli wūrç fōr this grēt bun tu edqçeshun,—this pauvrful *mashēn fōr fhr difqzhun əv nālej.*

The Alphabet.

Prof. Whitney's Scēm reading downwards, from mor to less open letters, in thrē sērīes.



Compounds { Vowels, ai = i, ei, au = (ou), iu, yu = (ū, ȳ);
Cōnsonants, sonant dzh = j (q), surd tsh = ch [q].

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BULLETIN

OF THE

SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Secretary's Office, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 5.

APRIL.

1878.

NEW LETTERS. — a, ask, far; æ, potato; ç (s), çent; è, me; çj (j), çjem; ÿ, lion; ø, net, nør; æ (z), hia; th, thè; ü, mûsic, ûnit; v, but, burn. Thèa letters ar üsd fër old which ar lik them in fèrm; sîlent e fînal and in inflectiona is droëpt. Prøper nama and a fèw øther worda recëiv spëcial trëatment. Sè Jüly Bulletin.

THE APRIL MEETING.

32 HAWLEY ST., BOSTON, MASS.

A gëneral invitation wæs gîvn to thè mëmbera of thè Associ-
ation to assembl ør rëport at thè quarterly mëeting of thè Ex-
ecütiv Cømmitte, but æs no spëcial business ør spëch-making
wæs announçt, thër wæs no grëat assemblaç, and thøa who mët
past thè tîm in cønferenç and cøngratûlations upen thè work
of thè past yëar and thè gëneral outlook.

Thè last quarterly përiod hæa bëen markt by spëcial activity
in thè press and in legîslativ action. New përiodicals in thè
intërest of thè rëform hav bëen bëgun by Mrs. E. B. Burna,
New York, and Mr. A. Løngley, St. Louis; spelling rëform
dëpartmënts hav bëen nëwly announçt in thè "New-England
Journal of Èdûcation" and thè "Èdûcational Wëekly of
Chicago; important nëw booka by Mr. Swëet, Prësident of thè
Philoløgical Socjëtý of London, and by Mr. Gladstone, hav
bëen publisht by Macmillan & Co., and many artîclæ hav ap-
pear'd in thè magazëna, thè most important of which ar mën-
tion'd in thè summary of Spëlling Rëform Literatür.

"The Little Folks" has been keeping right on. In the February number it introduced ligatures of the h-digraphs (sh, ch, th, th) as recommended by the Philological Association, and adopted by the Spelling Reform Association. We have but one (th) in the "Bulletin," our poverty and not our will consenting. In March we introduced a and b, and in April the ligatures ng and capital Dh, neither of which yet has been cut for our "Bulletin." It now announces that it contains all the new letters, and claims that they embarrass no one, but assist in pronunciation. If this claim shall prove to be well founded, we see the beginning of the end of the old spelling. The publishers have had an advertisement printed with the new types inserted in several newspapers. They dispose of large amounts of spelling reform stationery.

The Legislature of Wisconsin has appointed W. C. Whitford, Supt. of Public Instruction; R. E. Davis, of Dane county; George H. Paul, of Milwaukee; George S. Albé, of Winnebago county; and John B. Quimby, of Sauk county, a commission "to inquire and determine whether any of the proposed reforms in English orthography now under consideration by legislative bodies, or practiced in any of the public schools, or commended and approved by associations of scholars and experienced teachers in this country or Europe, can be properly and expeditiously adopted, or otherwise encouraged and promoted in the public schools, as in the publication of the official documents of this State, or otherwise."

In March, concurrent resolutions passed both houses of the Pennsylvania legislature authorizing the Governor to appoint a commission of six competent persons to report upon an amended orthography for the public documents. No opposition, and some good remarks from Senators Fisher and Allen.

March 6, Senator R. M. Haines introduced a similar resolution into the Senate of Iowa, which passed without opposition, but too late for the other house.

Senator W. W. Fowler, chairman of the Connecticut Legislative Commission, which consists further of Profs. Whitney and Trumbull of Yale, Hart of Trinity, and Van Benschoten of

Wesleyan University, with Hon. B. G. Northrop, Secretary of Education, is preparing a volume on the subject for publication in advance of the next session of the legislature.

Next winter many more of the States should be moved to action. So should Congress; and to that end memorials have been prepared, and should be widely signed this summer by teachers at their conventions, and by all friends of the reform. Send to the Secretary, or to Mr. Blackmer at 147 Fifth Avenue, Chicago, for printed copies.

ENGLAND.

What with the Pope and the strikers and the Jew and the Russians, Her Majesty's Government has not had time to appoint any Spelling Commission, but the scholars in their way, and Mr. Pitman in his, have been pressing on. We have spoken of some of their publications. Mr. Ellis and the Dialect Society are very busy. Mr. Skeat has been elected Professor of Anglo-Saxon at Cambridge, and promises a *fac-simile* edition of Beowulf. English studies of this kind mean, among other things, scientific reform of modern spelling.

GERMANY.

The Conference under Government auspices, in 1876, was a very mild affair. They were for doing little but dropping a few silent letters, writing *i* regularly for *y* (except in words from the Greek!), *f* for *ph* (except, again, words from Greek!). They made lists of words of varying spelling, and tried to agree on them, and in general were wonderfully cautious. There are, however, some Germans who favor more radical reform. They have formed an association, with its headquarters at Wiesbaden, Dr. F. W. Fricke, Hon. Secretary, and issued a paper named "Reform," published by J. Kühtmann, in Bremen, of which they promise eight to ten numbers yearly, for two marks (about 50 cents). In the number for February, 1878, they announce that they have now perfected the German alphabet, according to the ideal, "for each sound one sign." They use Roman types. The two facts about it most interesting to us are (1), it agrees with us in naturalizing in Roman type the old Greek, Italian, and German form of the first letter,—i. e., *α*; (2) it uses the same character for the long and short sound of each vowel, distinguishing the long by a macron, as we do. The Government Conference also handled this subject with

great car. The current spelling has three ways of denoting a long vowel: by doubling it, writing *h* after it, writing *e* with it. The Conference agreed to abolish all these, and write the simple letter, except (the Germans always have a body of exceptions) when the additional letter is organic, or necessary to distinguish the word from another. It requires some reflection for an American reformer to appreciate the economy and convenience of this notation.

The following is printed from the original plate. It was accompanied by a note which explains the spelling:—

"In the above report of Prof. March's address, new, or rather modified, letters have been introduced as follows:—

a for sound in *mate, late*, etc. o for sound in *order, on*, etc.

o " " " *are, ask*, etc. u " " " *but, burn*, etc.

i " " " *fine, pine*, etc. y " " " *use, culture*, etc.

The fact that the address was printed without the personal supervision of the author, and by printers unfamiliar with the plan proposed will account for any errors in the use of the new letters."

The Reform of English Spelling.

The Opening Address before the "International Convention for the Amendment of the English Orthography," at Philadelphia, Aug. 15, by Prof. F. A. MARCH, LL.D., of Lafayette College. (A special report for *The New-England*.)

Scholars are apt to think of writing as record, and forget that it is machinery to make knowledge and culture. They brood over the record, and forget to improve the machinery. But it is doubtful whether any invention of the century does as much for the race as would the invention and adoption of a good system of spelling our language. The difference between a family who can read and one who can not, is vastly more important than the difference between a family that uses railroads and telegraphs, and one that does not. Our wretched spelling makes millions of illiterates. Three years are spent in our primary schools in learning to read and spell a little. The German advances as far in a twelvemonth. A large fraction of the school time of the millions is thus stolen from useful studies, and devoted to most painful drudgery. The child

should have its reason awakened by order, fitness, law, in the objects it is first made to study. But woe to the child who tries to use reason in spelling English. The whole thing is confounding, stupefying, and perverting; it makes great numbers of children hate the sight of a book forever, and relieves from all learning.

And it has been computed that \$15,000,000 are squandered every year in this sort of teaching, and \$3,000,000 more every year in garnishing books and papers with silent letters. There are reported to the takers of our last census 5,500,000 illiterates. One-half, at least, of those who report themselves able to read, can not read well enough to get much good from it. Good spelling would increase by millions the number of easy readers, and by millions more the number of those fond of knowledge. Moral degeneracy waits on ignorance. Christianity has not half her strength where she can not use the press. We ought, then, to improve our spelling.

ORTHOGRAPHY NOT ORTHOEPIY.

Our object is orthography, not orthoepey; we have to do with writing, not pronunciation. It is often hard to tell what is the prevailing pronunciation of a word; but that is the business of the orthoepeist. Our office is to decide how to represent this pronunciation by visible signs.

AN IDEAL ALPHABET.

The essential idea of an alphabet is that each elementary sound shall have its own sign, and each sign its own sound. There are incidental qualities, such as simplicity and beauty, analogies of resemblance, and historical significance. But none of the incidental qualities must be pressed so far as to interfere with the essential purpose of the alphabet, the convenient communication of thought by signs of sounds. The perfect alphabet will not record etymology and history, to the neglect of current sounds. The popular standard alphabet of a great nation must be severely simple. It can not admit signs for

the ever-varying glides and finishes and colorings of fashionable or vulgar articulation, or even the more stable and general colorings produced by adjacent letters, unless they win significance. Alphabetic writing is a growth from picture-writing, never much influenced by ideas; and spoken language is always running away from the written.

CHANGES IN SPOKEN LANGUAGE.

1. By changes in the pronunciation of single words. The letters of unaccented syllables weaken and drop; that brings together letters which are hard to pronounce together, and one of them changes: 'Carolīna' tends to become 'Carvīna,' and then 'Cvīna,' 'Cvīny,' and 'Clīny.'

2. By changes of the elementary sounds. It becomes the fashion to utter some sound with a closer, or a more open utterance, or with a finish. Such changes often go on until a new sound is established, or the changing sound merges in some other old letter.

Three changes of this latter class are of special interest in English:

1. The regular assimilation by which intermediate letters spring up. Between *a* (*far*) and *e* (*met*), *a* as in 'fat,' 'fare,' has now become established; between *a* (*far*) and *o* (*no*), *o* as in 'not,' 'for'; then there is the neutral vowel of 'fun' and 'burn.' Mute consonants under vowel assimilation develop continuous or spirant consonants, as those represented by *t* in *nation*, *g* in *rouge*, *th* in *thin*, and *th* in *thine*. Six vowel sounds and four consonants of this kind unknown to the early Romans, are now used in English.

2. Changes under the accent. The close vowels *i* and *u* have been raised to diphthongs by inserting before them the sound of *a* (*far*): our long *i*, now pronounced *ai*, as in *mine*, was in Old English pronounced as in *machine*; our *ou*, that is, *au*, as in *house*, O.E. *hūs*, was spelt and pronounced like *u* in *rule*. The open and mixed vowels have become closer, *a* (*far*) changing

towards *i* or *u*, and becoming often *e* (*fate*), or *o* (*wall*); *e* (*they*) becoming like the old *i* (*machine*), and *o* becoming like the old *u* (*rule*). It has thus come about that single characters stand for diphthongs, and that the long and short sounds, which go in pairs in other languages, are denoted by different characters in ours, and are derived from different sources.

3. These pairs not being associated together, have not grown so much alike as in other languages. The *e* of *met* is so different from its long in *may*, the *i* of *fit* so different from its long in *fee*, that it is doubtful whether one character will do for both, as in Latin and German.

Our grandmother-tongue, the Anglo-Saxon, had a pretty good alphabet. The Roman missionaries, who converted the nation, reduced the language to writing in Roman letters with their common Latin powers, adding a few runes and digraphs for sounds which did not occur in Latin. Our woes spring from the Norman Conquest. The French and Anglo-Saxons united to form the English nation, and their languages were thrown into a sort of hotch-potch to form the English language. Many of the words of each nation were hard for the other to pronounce. They were spelt by the scholars to whom they were native, in the old book fashion, but the people did not pronounce them correctly. Many letters were left silent, or inserted to no purpose in ill-directed attempts to represent the strange combinations. Then the great changes already described took place in the whole gamut, so to speak, of our vowel-sounds. People hardly knew what was the matter, as these changes went on. We finally arrived at a sort of Chinese ideographic system. The written words are associated with thoughts without reference to the sounds which the separate letters might indicate. Changes in the sounds of words go on with no record in the writing. Ingenious etymologists slip in new silent letters as records of history drawn from their imagination; old monsters, fertile in the popular fancy, propagate

themselves in the congenial environment; and altogether we have attained the worst spelling on the planet. And we have been proud of it, and are fond of it.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

What can be done for reform? We can produce dissatisfaction with our present spelling: that is easy.

We can teach the people what spelling ought to be: that is harder.

We can harmonize views as to the changes which are practicable, and the methods of introducing them.

And then we can use the reformed spelling, and get others to use it.

PREPARATORY WORK.

Comparative philology is based on phonetics. Our most eminent philologists have published vigorous essays of demonstration, oburgation, and appeal against our monstrous spelling. Our venerable chief, the Hon. George P. Marsh, Prof. Hadley, the presidents of the American Philological Association, Whitney, Trumbull, Haldeman, stand side by side with Prof. Max Müller, the presidents of the London Philological Society, Ellis, Pitman, Bell, and other practical workers, and with all scholars, great and small, of other nations.

The historical study of English, the publications of the Early English Text Society, and other reprints of original editions of early writers, of Chaucer, Spenser, Shakespeare, in their own spelling, have made all young scholars familiar with many ways of spelling, and with the early powers of our letters. The spelling of our narrators in dialect and our comic writers, Burns, Scott, Dickens, Josh Billings, helps. We make the widest guesses at the sounds which they mean to indicate, and read Burns to ourselves in a Scottish which no Scot ever dreamed of; but at least we escape from the common spelling.

Teachers work to the same end, especially in regions where here are Germans in the schools. German parents can not

be made to understand why a good teacher should keep their children four or five years in the spelling-book. Superintendents want to make English as easy as German.

Teachers of elocution teach phonetic systems, which are often used in our common schools in reading-classes. Many primers introduce children to our present written language through a phonetic system. Many persons learn phonetic stenography, and there are a large number of teachers of it, and of periodicals published in its interest. Teachers of Latin and Greek and other foreign tongues, also help. Most persons forty or fifty years old would be astonished to learn how wide preparation for a change of spelling has already been made in the younger generation. Add foreigners and others who do not know that Josh Billings does not spell as well as anybody, and it would seem that three-fourths of our readers would read without new embarrassment in a reformed spelling, while the 5,500,000 illiterates might be taught it in half the time of the old.

SCHEMES OF REFORM.

The remedy for single words which have silent letters or blundering spelling, is plain. Drop the silent letters, correct the blunders.

The remedy for the general insufficiency and contrariety of our notation, is by no means obvious. There are three methods of cure, each of which has its show of reason and able advocates.

The first is the adoption of a new set of signs, which shall answer better than the Roman characters to an ideal alphabet. If all our books and newspapers had to be prepared by penmen, Pitman's stenography, or something like it, would long since have displaced the Roman letters. The press has saved them. *It is not unlikely that hand-machines for printing may take the place of the pen, and open the way for the use of*

elaborate and significant characters, like those of Mr. Bell. But the Roman alphabet is so widely and firmly established among the leading civilized nations, that it can not be soon displaced. In adapting it to improved use in English, two plans may be followed. One is to hold the Roman values of the letters as nearly as they exist in English, and supplement by the invention of new characters, and the use of diacritical marks. This is the system which scholars use in writing, when they wish to represent the true sounds of English words, and it brings us into accord with other nations. They would prefer it, if it can be introduced. It is as follows:

The letters which have their Roman sound, or nearly that, in familiar use, should retain it: *a* (*far*), *e* (*let*), *i* (*pit*), *o* (*note*), *u* (*bull*), *b*, *c* (*k*), *d*, *f*, *g* (*go*), *h*, *l*, *m*, *n*, *p*, *r*, *s* (*so*), *t*. We must add the consonants *v*, *w*, *y*, *z*. There are three new short vowels which need signs: those in *fat*, *not*, *but*. For these the easiest signs to introduce are easily recognizable variations of *a*, *o*, *u*, such as, for example, *ä*, *ö*, *ü*. It has been generally found best to use the same sign for a short vowel and its long, adding a diacritical mark when greater precision is needed. This would probably be acceptable for the sounds of *ä* (*past*, *far*), *ä* (*fat*, *fare*), *ö* (*obey*, *note*), *ü* (*bull*, *rude*), *ø* (*not*, *nor*), *u* (*but*, *burn*). There is doubt about *e* (*let*, *late*) and *i* (*pick*, *pique*); a variation of *e*, looking like *a*, such as *æ* and *i* looking like *e*, such as *ë* have good promise. For diphthongs there are *ai* (*by*), *au* (*house*), *oi* (*noise*), *iu* (*music*). It seems almost necessary at first to use for *ai* some variation of *i*, and for *iu* some variation of *u*, such as, for example, *ï*, *û*. Then there are the consonants, *th*, *dh* (*thin*, *thine*), *sh*, *zh* (*sugar*, *pleasure*), *ng* (*sing*), and the combinations *tsh* (*church*), *dzh* (*judge*), which await their signs in the perfect alphabet.

For this system it may be said that it is easy to read for all who read French, German, Latin or Greek, or Anglo-Saxon, and will have all learned associations in its favor. It will be

easiest for children and the illiterate to learn. It will make the learning of foreign tongues easy; it will settle the school pronunciation of Latin and Greek; it will revive the speech of our classic English authors. As we now read "Hamlet" and the "Canterbury Tales," Shakespeare would understand them with difficulty, Chaucer hardly at all.

It has been often explained by our students of etymology that such a reform will not hinder, but rather help etymological investigations. Old spellings are preserved in old books. It will, however, make it harder for persons little versed in etymology to recognize at sight words of Latin or other foreign origin in English books.

It is thought that it will be hard to introduce it; that the printers can not use it for want of types, and nobody can read it without study. These objections have force against the sudden use of the whole scheme, but may be met by its gradual introduction, and by temporary expedients. All the new vowels may be substituted for the old ones which they resemble, when the old ones have the intended sound, without embarrassing any reader; and gradually the consonants. Printers who have not the new types, can use those like them, with a dot: a· for α, o· for σ, u· for υ, and the like. Everything in this direction is clear gain.

The other system is to follow the analogies of the present English spelling, to give our single letters the value which they have oftenest, and to supplement with those digraphs which now most commonly represent the sounds which would have no single letter to represent them. Two powerful reasons may be urged for a trial of this method:

1. It can be easily read by any one who can read English now.
2. It can be printed with common types.

It may be further said that it is in the line of the regular development of our language; the most frequent mode of rep-

representing each sound displaces the less frequent, according to the usual law of conformation.

Many of the objections to this system would be removed by regarding the digraphs which are appropriated to elementary sounds, as single characters, as naming them as such by the elementary sound, so as to make no mention of the separate letters. They should be cast as one type; then the type-founders would soon invent shapely abbreviations, which would be good enough signs, and record some English history to boot. In reducing this scheme to practice, difficulties arise. The aspect of large numbers of words is so completely changed, that easy reading is out of the question. It is associated with buffoonery, vulgarity, and illiteracy, and excites odium, ridicule, and violent opposition. In spite of all, there are many persons to whom it is more acceptable than any other scheme, and the use of it clearly contributes to genuine reform in the present stage of the movement.

PRACTICAL ACTION.

It is desirable to gain the assent of the most eminent scholars and leading practical workers to definite measures of reform. A national or international association of permanent workers, with subordinate societies may be formed, who can urge the cause by lectures, the press, and otherwise.

Reformed spelling may be introduced into the transactions of the learned societies. The philological societies of England and America, national and state teachers' associations, associations for the advancement of science, and other similar bodies may be looked to with hope.

The legislatures may introduce new spelling into public documents. Preparatory measures, as far as the appointment of committees to examine and report on this matter, have been taken in several of our States, and they awaken no opposition. This preliminary action is a great step as gathering up a *certain authority for the movement*. The actual use of improved

spelling in such transactions and documents would give it authority without awakening popular hostility.

We may get more or less of the reforms into the newspapers and popular books. It may be used in many books as explanatory of other spelling. Dictionaries of it must be made. The grand point of assault is the school room. To make teachers use it themselves, and teach it,—to have school-books, primers, spellers, readers, and all other books printed in it, are the great things to be worked for. Win the school room, and the cause is won.

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BULLETIN
OF THE
SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Secretary's Office, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 6.

JULY.

1878.

The following rules will simplify the spelling of very many words:

1.—Omit *a* from the digraf *ea* when pronouncd as *e*-short, as in *hed*, *helth*, etc. 2.—Omit silent *e* after a short vowel, as in *hav*, *giv*, etc. 3.—Write *f* for *ph* in such words as *alfabet*, *fantom*, etc. 4.—When a word ends with a doubl letter, omit the last, as in *shal*, *clif*, *eg*, etc. 5.—Change *ed* final to *t* wher it has the sound of *t*, as in *lasht*, *imprest*, etc.

The American Philological Association met at Saratoga, July 9. The committee on the Reform of English Spelling, Prof. F. A. March, chairman, Profs. W. D. Whitney and J. H. Trumbull, of Yale College, Prof. F. J. Child, of Harvard College, Prof. S. S. Haldeman, of the University of Pennsylvania, reported as follows:

"In accordanc with the plan of preparing a list of words for which an amended spelling may be adopted concurrent with that now in use, as suggested by President J. Hammond Trumbull, at the session of 1875, and favorably reported upon by the committee of that session, the committee now present the following words as the beginning of such list, and recommend them for immediate use: **Ar, catalog, definit, gard, giv, hav, infinit, liv, tho, thru, wisht.**"

The report was accepted, and the committee continued. It was further resolvd, That the Association approve of the list of words reported by the committee on the Reform of English Spelling, as judiciously selected for the purpose mentiond in the Report.

Prof. H. C. G. Brandt, of Johns Hopkins University, red a paper on "The Roman Alfabet in German," which is on spelling reform in German, and is printed in the Proceedings in amended spelling.

Prof. W. C. Sawyer, of Lawrence University, red a paper on "Some Contributions of the Fonograf to Fonetie Scienc," which is also essentially a reform paper.

The American Institute of Instruction met at Fabyan's in the White Mountains, July 10. A paper on the Spelling Reform, by Prof. F. A. March, was red, July 11. The Institute resolvd: That the educational claims of the Spelling Reform merit our most careful attention, and that a committee of three be appointed to report what steps should be taken by the Institute to aid it. Resolvd: That the Institute joins the members of the American Philological Association and others in the following Memorial to Congres:

MEMORIAL.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:

This Memorial of the undersigned, members of the American Philological Association, and others, respectfully represents that it is currently stated by leading educators that the irregular spelling of the English language causes a loss of two years of the school time of each child, and is a main cause of the alarming illiteracy of our people; that it involves an expense of hundreds of millions of dollars annually for teachers and for writing and printing superfluous letters, and that it is an obstacle in many other ways to the progress of education among those speaking the English language, and to the spread of the language among other nations.

It further represents that leading educators, among whom are many teachers of much practical experience, and associations of learned scholars declare it possible to reform our spelling and have proposed schemes of reform.

The prayer of your memorialists therefore is that your honorable body may see fit to appoint a Commission to examine and report how far such a reform is desirable, and what amendments in orthography, if any, may be wisely introduced into the public documents and the schools of the District of Columbia, and accepted in examinations for the Civil Service, and whether it is expedient to move the Government of Great Britain to unite in constituting a joint Committee to consider such amendments.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray, etc.

This Memorial has been well and widely signed.

The Spelling Reform Association met at Fabyan's July 11, at 2 P. M. Reports of business matters were made, officers were chosen. See our 4th page. Addresses were made by Prof. Henkle, of Ohio, Prof. D. B. Hagar, of Massachusetts, Prof. Z. Richards, of Washington, and others. Resolutions were past, recommending editors and others to introduce *hav*, *glv*, and *liv*, in reformed spelling, and instructing the officers of the Association to publish no documents for it without some amended spelling.

A letter missive from Vice President Jones, Liverpool, Eng., to the Association was read. The following extract is given in Mr. Jones's spelling:

"The London conference proved eminently successful in its object, in so far as it clearly demonstrated—(1) That the principal of Spelling Reform had the full support of the first philologists of England as well as of America and Germany, and of some of the foremost statesmen and educationists of the country; (2) That a national system of education worthy the name was impossible without a revision of spelling; and (3) That the scholarship of the age, the sciences of language, and the interests of etymology not less than the interest of general education demand an improved system of orthography. It was clearly shown at the conference that in a large number of words violence was done to etymology by the current mode of spelling, and that these have set themselves up as champions of etymology and to join Spelling Reformers, in so far at least as the correction of manifest blunders and faults etymologically were concerned."

The Association wants money. This Bulletin is a kind of appeal for money. We ought to print a Weekly Journal. Last year we thought a Quarterly Bulletin of sixteen pages could be regularly issued. But the money is not at hand for that. Send in the money or there can be no return.

We send with this to each member a pamphlet containing Prof. March's paper on Dissimilated Gemination printed in new types in the Transactions of the Philological Association, 1878.

BULLETIN
OF THE
SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Secretary's Office, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 7.

OCTOBER.

1878.

For changes of spelling, see page 3, near the bottom.

THE OCTOBER MEETING of the Spelling Reform Association was held at St. Louis, Oct. 26. Mr. J. B. Merwin presided. Mr. T. R. Vickroy, director for the South-West, read a paper explaining the new fonetic alfabet and its application to teaching reading, and showed how its use would save at least two years of the time usually devoted to reading and spelling. He exhibited specimen sheets of his new Primer. A paper from A. J. Ellis, Esq., of England, was read by Mr. H. W. Prentice. It pointed out the difficulties in realizing the doctrine that each elementary sound should have its own sign. We do not know the elementary sounds of speech. The so-called elementary sounds or combinations. But with the use of proper key-words, we can, by careful drill, make a pretty close approximation to the intended combinations. Discussions followed, and deliberations on practical measures. "All those present were enthusiastic in the cause." We shall soon have Mr. Vickroy's Primer.

After the great summer conventions comes a quiet time. From October to January this year Spelling Reformers are urged to prepare for the Christmas meetings of teachers, and for the sessions of the Legislatures of the states and of Congress. Read up for the discussions at the Teachers' Conventions. Get signers for the Memorial to the Legislature or Congress. Any reasonable man may be brought to sign them. There is no first step more easy to take; and any one who has signed will take further steps as may be needed. We print a resolution for Associations of Teachers on page 3, and we will also print the joint resolution of the State of Connecticut appointing a Committee on Spelling Reform, and the Memorial to Congress, with some of the signatures, such as were obtained by presenting it to the members of the Philological Association. Representatives of all the colleges in the country may very likely sign it if presented to them. Let everybody sign it.

"Resolved by this Assembly: That the Governor be, and he hereby is authorized to appoint a Commission, consisting of six competent persons, who shall examine as to the propriety of adopting an amended orthography of the public documents hereafter to be printed, and how far such amended orthography may with propriety be adopted, and report thereupon to the next session of the General Assembly. That such Commission shall receive no compensation for its services. Approved July 20th, 1875."

paper was read by G. A. Walton, Westfield, on the method of teaching reading in primary schools. It advocated the word method, and gave rise to an interesting discussion. Prof. Butterfield expounded Bell's Visible Speech.

THE ILLINOIS State Teachers' Association met at Springfield; Dec. 26. Dr. Willard, of the Chicago High School read a paper on "How to Systematize English Orthography." It ought to be printed in our Bulletin. A discussion followed, and a committee on Spelling Reform was appointed, to report next year.

THE IOWA State Teachers' Association past the following: *Resolved*, That we heartily approve the action of the Philological Association in asking of Congress a Commission to examine into the desirability of reform in English spelling.

THE MICHIGAN State Teachers' Association had the spelling reform brought before them by E. O. Vaile, editor of the *Educational Weekly*, Chicago.

IN INDIANA and WISCONSIN it was also up. It is said in the report to the Legislature of Wisconsin on the subject that "nearly 400 residents of Wisconsin, officers and professors in our colleges, and teachers in our public schools have united in a memorial to Congress asking the appointment of a National Committee."

As a specimen of the action of the County Institutes, we give the following: *Resolved*, That we (the teachers of the SCHUYLKILL COUNTY INSTITUTE, PA.,) endorse the last annual appeal of the American Philological Association to teachers, editors, and the intelligent public to make a beginning in the reform of dropping the useless *e* in the words *have*, *give*, and *live*.

THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY INSTITUTE, PA., past in substance the resolution recommended in the Chicago Circular in favor of requesting our Legislatures, State and National, to appoint Commissions to investigate and report what can be done to simplify our spelling.

The Text-Book Commission of the State of Wisconsin made a report on spelling reform, Jan. 8, 1879. It is a comprehensive and impressive argument in favor of the reform, and of state action to promote it. It proposes that the Superintendent of Public Instruction be authorized to supply the schools of the state with a dictionary embodying an amended orthography in connection with the present approved orthography. The report was prepared by Senator George H. Paul, of Milwaukee, and is everywhere recognized as an able and important document. We are enabled by the kindness of friends to send a copy of it with this Bulletin to the members of the Association.

The Memorial now in circulation is not the first address to Congress. We have received a pamphlet containing such a Memorial from N. E. Dawson, of Burlington, Iowa, to the 45th Congress; and in it is a long quotation from a Memorial presented some years ago by a Western Congressman named Edmund Burke, which is so quoted as to have misled many intelligent persons to suppose it to have been presented to the Parliament of Great Britain by the great Edmund Burke.

The Illinois Industrial University bids fair to become the cradle of the Western spelling reform movement. Both faculty and students are joining in the good work in a manner well worthy of imitation by other institutions. "The I. I. U. Spelling Reform Association," organized during the last month, already numbers a large proportion of the students, and waxes stronger day by day. Its rules are, for the present, only the following five: 1. Use *e* for *ea* when equivalent to short *e*. 2. Omit silent *e* after a short vowel. 3. Use *f* for *ph*. 4. Omit one letter of a final double. 5. Use *i* instead of *ed* when it represents the sound.

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BULLETIN

OF THE

SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Secretary's Office, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 8.

JANUARY.

1879.

The following rules wil simplify the spelling of very many words:

1.—Omit *a* from the digraf *ea* when pronouncd as *e*-short, as in *hed*, *helth*, etc. 2.—Omit silent *e* after a short vowel, as in *hav*, *giv*, etc. 3.—Write *f* for *ph* in such words as *alfabet*, *fantom*, etc. 4.—When a word ends with a doubl letter, omit the last, as in *shal*, *clif*, *eg*, etc. 5.—Change *ed* final to *t* wher it has the sound of *t*, as in *lasht*, *imprest*, etc.

TRESURER'S NOTIC.

I desire to remind the members of the Association that the annual fee (\$1.00) for 1879 is now due. The 16-page Bulletins of last year wer regarded as permanent documents, and a large number wer printed; a large amount of spelling reform stationery was also preparad, so that the expenses far exceded the regular income. The Association needs money at once to go on with its work. Ther is plenty to do. Some members hav not paid for last year. Please to send the full amount to the Treasurer,

Lafayette College, Jan., 1879.

E. HUBBARD BARLOW, Easton, Pa.

The April meeting of the Executiv Committee will be held at Chicago, April 30, 1879. Members, and others interested in the cause, ar invited to send reports of progres. Direct to O. C. Blackmer, 147-149 Fifth Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

F. A. MARCH, *Pres.*

During the Christmas holidays a large part of the teachers and school officers, and indeed of all persons interested in education in this country, had their attention turnd to the spelling reform. The State Teachers' Associations met in many states, and in those in which they did not, ther wer very general meetings of County Institutes or other smaller associations. At these meetings this year almost everywhere papers wer red and discussions had on this reform. These wer reported in educational and other papers, and in many places followd by other articles on the subject.

THE MASSACHUSETTS Teachers' Association met at Worcester, Dec. 26. J. A. Allen red a paper on Spelling Reform, which provokt a lively discussion, and led to the appointment of a committee to co-operate with the American Philological Association in memorializing Congres for the establishment of a Commission to investigate the orthograpy of the English language, and report upon reforms in it. The report was adopted, and Messrs. D. B. Hagar, Salem; N. T. Allen, Newton; B. F. Tweed, Boston; A. P. Stone, Springfield; A. G. Boyden, Bridgewater, wer appointed. A

SPEÇIMEN IN CÖMUN TİP.

By the phonetic alphabet a child may be taught the art of reading, not fluently but well, both in phonetic and in ordinary books, in three months—ay, often in twenty hours of thorough instruction;—a task which is rarely accomplished in three years of toil by the old alphabet. What father or teacher will not gladly hail and earnestly work for this great boon to education,—this powerful machine for the diffusion of knowledge.

S. R. A. Alfabet: 32 saundə distingwiſht.
Webster's pronunçiaſhun.

Bì thè fonetic alfabet a child ma bè töt thè art øv rëding, nèt flüentli but wel, bōfh in fonetic and in ørdineri bucs, in thrè munths—ai, øfn in twenti aurs øv fhuro instrucshun;—a tasc hwich ia rarli acomplisht in thrè yèrə øv tōil bì thè old alfabet. Hwot fathur ør tēchur wil nèt gladli hæl and urnestli wurc fər this grat bun tu edücashun,—this pauurful mashèn fər thè difüzhun øv nøleg.

S. R. A. Alfabet: øl thè saundə distingwiſht.

Bì thè fonetic alfabet à child ma bè töt thè ärt øv rëding, nèt flüentli but wel, bōfh in fonetic and in ørdineri bucs, in thrè munths—ai, øfn in twenti aurs øv fhuro instrucshun;—a tasc hwich ia rärli acomplisht in thrè yèrə øv tōil bì thè øld alfabet. Hwot fathur ør tēchur wil nèt gladli hæl and ørnestli würc fər this grat bün tu edücashun,—this pauurful mashèn fər thè difüzhun øv nøleg.

Cärful atenshun ia invited tu thèz speçimens øv fonetic printing. It ia belëvd that so clōs a rezemblanç tu thè ørdineri printed pag can nèt bè øbtand bì eni uthər *fonetic alfabet that hæz ever bin devjəd.* It ia therfor *les øfensiv tu thè rëder than eni uthər, and ma bè cōld*
DHE ALFABET ØV LEST REZISTANÇ.

BULLETIN
OF THE
SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Secretary's Office, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 9.

APRIL.

1879.

The following rules will simplify the spelling of very many words:

1.—Omit *a* from the digraf *ea* when pronounced as *e*-short, as in *hed*, *helth*, etc. 2.—Omit silent *e* after a short vowel, as in *hav*, *giv*, etc. 3.—Write *f* for *ph* in such words as *alfabet*, *fantom*, etc. 4.—When a word ends with a doubl letter, omit the last, as in *shal*, *clif*, *eg*, etc. 5.—Change *ed* final to *t* wher it has the sound of *t*, as in *lasht*, *imprest*, etc.

The Annual Meeting of the Spelling Reform Association will be held at Philadelphia, at the time of the meeting ther of the National Educational Association, July 29-31. A more exact notiç will be given hereafter.

The Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Georgia, has taken charge of the Memorial to Congres with the signatures of the Philologists of which an account was given in the October Bulletin of last year. Besides the colleges ther mentiond, ther ar signatures from Haverford College, Pa.; Washington and Jefferson, Pa.; Agricultural and Mechanical College, Texas; Shurtleff College, Illinois; Adrian College, Mich.; Cornell College, Iowa; the U. S. Naval Observatory, Washington.

The University of Mississippi appointed a committee to consider the propriety of uniting in the Memorial, the chairman of which was Prof. J. L. Johnson, LL. D., wel known as one of the foremost Anglo-Saxon scholars in the south. They made an abl report in favor of action, which has been printed, and which we wish we could re-print for general distribution.

Prof. Edward North, of Hamilton College, made a lerned and forçibl plea for the reform before a convention of School Commissioners and Superintendents at Utica, N. Y., which was printed in the *Utica Morning Herald*, and other papers as far west as Chicago. We ought to hav that, too, in an extra Bulletin.

Prof. L. H. Carpenter, of the University of Wisconsin, the wel-known Anglo-Saxon scholar and author, red an abl paper in favor of reform before the State Teachers' Association at Geneva. It is printed as a pamphlet.

A lively discussion has been going on in the *Chicago Tribune* which has brought out a number of schemes of reform, and the usual objections to all of them. Ther is a great deal of work to be done yet, and the Chicago reformers seem to be redy for it.

Mr. T. R. Vickroy, our enthusiastic and indefatigabl Director for the South-West, has completed his *Reading Book*, and it has been publiht by Van Antwerp, Bragg, & Co., Cincinnati. It is printed in the alfabet as spelling of the Association, and will be a great help to the reform.

The following is the famous Chicago Circular:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Chicago, Ill., Dec. 2nd, 1878.

To _____, President of Board of Education of _____

DEAR SIR:—In obedience to the following resolution offered by Inspector William J. English, and unanimously adopted by the Chicago Board of Education, to-wit:

“That the secretary of this Board correspond with the principal School Boards and Educational Associations of the country with a view to co-operation in the reform of English Spelling;”

I respectfully transmit to you the following statements, with the request that you submit the subject to which they relate to your Board of Education, and advise us of your action thereon. Respectfully,

DUANE DOTY, Sec’y Board of Education.

STATEMENTS.

There is a wide-spread and growing interest in the question of greatly simplifying our English spelling, but it is felt that no very satisfactory progress in such a reform can be made until the government itself manifests an interest in the subject.

The American Philological Society [Association] has already issued the following Memorial to Congress.

[The Memorial is printed in our Bulletin for October, 1878.]

Commissions have been created to inquire into and report on this subject by the Legislatures of Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

In England, nearly two hundred School Boards, representing all the large cities, and a large number of educational and scientific associations have already united in a petition to the British Government to issue a Royal Commission to consider and report upon the question of simplifying the spelling of the English language.

We would respectfully request your Board of Education to unite with us in the foregoing Memorial to Congress, and to advise us of your action by sending us a copy of the resolution, or resolutions, you adopt.

The following is suggested as a form for a resolution:

Resolved, That the irregular spelling of the English language is a serious hindrance in learning to read and write, and is one cause of the alarming illiteracy in our country; that it occupies much time in our schools which is needed for other branches of study; and that it is desirable to request our Legislatures, State and National, to appoint Commissioners to investigate this matter, and report what measures, if any, can be taken to simplify our spelling.

The secretary of the Board has already received favorable responses from the following School Boards: Orange, N. J.; Shurtleff College, Alton, Ill.; Davenport, Iowa; Rockford, Ill.; Adrian College, Mich.; Hannibal, Mo.; Syracuse, N. Y.; Alton, Ill.; Sandusky, O.; Taunton, Mass.; Toledo, O.; Galesburg, Ill.; Baltimore, Md.; LaCrosse, Wis.; Auburn, N. Y.; Salt Lake City, Utah; Cornell College, Iowa; Springfield, Ill.; University of Miss.; Portland, Oreg.

We urge all our friends to bring this circular before all School Boards with which they have influence. Write to Mr. Doty for copies.

Mr. A. J. Ellis, of London, brought it before the London School Board, January 15, for information, and it is printed in the London School Board Chronicle for January 18.

Steiger's Year-Book of Education for 1878 gives a full account of the Spelling Reform for the year in the article ORTHOGRAPHY. Appleton's Year-Book also promises a similar article.

C. A. Cutter, the Librarian of the Boston Athenæum, and the eminent author of the Rules for a dictionary catalog published by the United States, at the head of the Bibliography in the Library Journal this note:

"The American Philological Association, the only body in the country which can be said to be of any authority in the matter of language, has published a list of ten [eleven] words, in which it recommends an improved spelling. With the greater part of the list, librarians have no special concern; but with regard to 'catalog,' I feel that we are called upon to decide whether we will slavishly follow the objectionable orthography of the past, or will make an effort, at a time when there is every chance of its being successful, to effect some improvement. In this case the responsibility lies upon cataloguers. The proper persons to introduce new forms of technical words are those artisans who have most to do with them. I shall therefore in the following notes (except when quoting) omit the superfluous French *ue*. I am well aware that the unwonted appearance of the word will be distasteful for a time to many readers, including myself; but the advantages of the shorter form are enough to compensate for the temporary annoyance. To bibliographers, who are accustomed to the German 'Katalog,' the effort to get used to 'Cátalog' should be hardly perceptible."

Since that time he has used this spelling entirely. Many other librarians have adopted and use it in their articles and correspondence. The editor of the Journal finds that this influence has spread so fast that he receives more spellings "catalog" than with the *ue*. The President of the A. L. A., having doubts of the wisdom of the change, inquiries were sent to a number of leading librarians, asking their opinion. The answers were so encouraging that Mr. Cutter now proposes to adopt the spelling "bibliografi." This shows how much a leading specialist may do with a little effort.

T. B. Sprague, M.A., Vice-President of the Institute of Actuaries, England, has issued a monograph in reformed spelling on *Does Vaccination Afford any Protection against Small-Pox?* He says: "I believe that spelling reformers should use their utmost influence to get a partially reformed spelling adopted in treating of subjects of general interest, so that the public may gradually become familiarized with the idea that a spelling reform is possible." The new dress fits a scientific paper perfectly.

From Mr. Isaac Pitman's *Phonetic Journal* we get news of an important gathering of the "Spelling Reform Association for Promoting a Reform of English Spelling," at Dr. Gladstone's, London, Tuesday night, March 25:

Among those present were Professors Sayce and Candy, Drs. Murray and Harley, Messrs. Washington Moon, Pagliardini, Jones, Withers, Rowland Hamilton, Dick, Arding, Evans, Price, Spalding, Harold Cox, Tenney, and others. Mr. Ellis was not well enough to attend. A few of those present brought some contributions to the literature of the question for distribution. Mr. J. B. Rundell's was a proposal for a thick illustrated fonetic reading book, either in new letters, or, preferably, in the old letters, with accents or dots. Mr. Washington Moon kindly showed the MS. of a first book for children, combining reading and singing lessons. This would be on his accented letter basis.

Dr. Gladstone was voted to the chair, and after reading a list of those who explained the reason for their non-attendance, among whom were Sir Walter Calverley Trevelyan, Mr. E. Tylor, Rev. Brooke Lambert, Dr. Norman Kerr, and Isaac Pitman, he invited Dr. Murray to make a few remarks. Dr. Murray referred to the Dictionary whose editorship he had undertaken under the auspices of the University of Oxford, and in which the various spellings of words from the earliest times would be given. From these changes people would be able to see what a very small matter any particular spelling of a word was. The first part of this dictionary was expected to be ready about 1882, and it was hoped that, if all went well, it would be ready in ten years from that time. Prof. Sayce, referring to the suggested establishment of a monthly organ for the advocacy of Spelling Reform, thought that it might be well to follow the changes of spelling recommended by the American Association. It was determined that a Committee should be formed, and a monthly organ started as soon as possible.

ALFABET OF THE SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Imitation in Common Typs with Accents. -

Letters unchangd: a (fat, fare), b, c=k=q, ch (church), d, e (met), f=ph, g (go), h, i (it), j (jet, jem=gem), l, m, n, ng (sing), o (no), p, r, s (so), sh (shè), t, th (thin, author, pith), u (full, rule), v, w (wet), x, y (yet), z, zh (azhure=azhur).

New Letters.

A circumflex (^) marks an a-sound; dots (") an i-sound; the brev (˘) a shortening to a new letter.

a-sounds	{	a, (arm), â, fâther, ârm.
	{	î=ai, (lîon), î, lîon.
	{	ë=ii, (më), ë, më.
i-sounds	{	æ=ei, (able), â, potâto, äble.
	{	u or ü=yu, iu (unit, müsic), û, ûnit, müic.
New sounds	{	ø, (net, or), ö, nöt ör.
	{	u, (but, burn), ü, büt, bürn.
		dh, th, (then, other, with), cut f,
		fhen, ofher, wifh.

The following, containing all the English sounds, is printed with accented typs as abuv. It is in pür fonetic spelling according to Webster's pronunçiation:

Bî fhë fonetic alfâbet â chîld mâ bë töt fhë ârt öv rêding, nöt flüentli büt wel, both in fonetic and in ördineri bucs, in thrë münths—âi, öfn in twenti âurz öv thüro instrücshün;—â tâsc hwich iz rarli acömplisht in thrë yërz öv töil bî fhë old alfâbet. Hwöt fâthür ör tëchür wil nöt gladli hâl and 'ärnestli würc fôr fhis grät bun tu educâshün,—fhis pâuürfül *nashën* fôr fhë difüzhün öv nölej.

BULLETIN

OF THE

SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

General Offices, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 10.

M A Y.

1879.

THE PRESENT CONDITION OF THE SPELLING REFORM.

[BY F. A. MARCH, PRESIDENT OF THE SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.]

From the Transactions of the American Institute of Instruction, 1878.

WE have always had spelling reformers. The mixture of Anglo-Saxon and Norman, which grew into use in the four centuries following the Norman conquest, was at first a despised and uncultivated dialect, almost exactly like our Pennsylvania Dutch. In those long generations of turmoil and strife everybody talkt according to his whim, and explaind himself with his sword. As soon as literature began to be produced in the new speech the authors began to worry at the scribes for their spelling.

“Adam Scrivener,” says Chaucer, “if ever it thee befall
Boece or Troilus for to write newe,
Under thy long locks thou maist have the scalle
But after my making thou write more true.”

The mixture of French and Anglo-Saxon words, almost all of them mangled in the utterance, was enough to giv any scribe such disgust and contempt and distress, as no poor reader of the *Phonetic News* or printer of phonetic manuscript can nowadays fairly attain to. When printing was begun by Caxton,

1474, it was with a force of Dutch printers, who set up the English manuscripts as best they could, after their Dutch fashion, with many an objugation of our grammarless tung. But in the great printing-offices, rules, or habits equivalent to rules, soon began to grow up. More or less silent e's might be used to space out the lines, but aside from this we seldom find a word spelt in more than five or six different ways in a well-printed book of the time of Elizabeth, and the number of these variations gradually diminisht. Some editions of the English Bible wer very carefully spelt, and finally Dr. Johnson gave the stamp of authority to the prevalent habits of the London printers, and we arrived at a standard orthography.

Not without protest, however. Dr. Johnson was no scholar and no reformer, but a literary man, an extreme conservativ and a violent Tory. There wer many attacks on him in England, but the printers took his side, so far as spelling is concernd, and since his day books ar not printed by the spelling of the author, but by the spelling of the printing-office. Things went somewhat differently in America. The old Tory's name did not recommend his book on this side the water. Our ancestors rejoiced in Horne Tooke's exposure of his ignorance, and some of them thought we had better hav an American language, as we wer to hav an American nation. Dr. Franklin and Noah Webster ar the best known promoters of this movement. They favord thoro reform of the language on a phonetic basis. This was the dawn of scientific common-sense in the realm of language, but the printers proved too strong for them.

Webster's Dictionary has indeed in name superseded Johnson's as a popular guide; but except in the endings *or* and *ic*, the later editions of Webster hav forgotten, or remember with faint praise, the reformed *spellings by which he set such store*. After the revo-

lutionary ardor past, the literary class turnd with renewd affection and delight to the old country, the old home. Happy was he who grew up in a house where there wer copies of Shakespeare and Milton, of Addison and Locke, Pope and Dryden, and Burke and Junius. An old folio of Ben Jonson, Spenser, Chaucer, Piers Plowman, or one of Gervase Markham's less stately quartos, with a grandfather's name on it, made a man feel as though he had blue blood in his veins. The very paper and binding, and the spelling, wer sweet and venerable to him. By and by arose Sir Walter Scott and Byron, Wordsworth and Coleridge, and all the host of that wonderful generation. The talk of an American language past away or retired to the backwoods. And whenever schemes of reformd spelling wer broacht, as they wer now and then, the literary class took them as a kind of personal insult, and overwhelmd the reformers with immeasurable reproach and inextinguishable laughter. Within the last fifty years, however, a complete revolution has taken place in the ideals and purposes of the scholarly class. The highest words of the old scholars wer *culture* and *beauty*. They sought to mold themselves into beautiful characters. They sought to dwell with beautiful objects. They wer fond of saying that beauty is its own excuse for being, that a thing of beauty is a joy forever.

The highest words of the new scholars ar *progress* and *power*; new truth they want, and new fruit every day in the improvement of the state of man. Culture turns from fiction to fact, from poetry to science. Linguistic study shares the spirit of the age. It has turnd from dreaming over old love stories to the study of nations and of man as recorded in language. The philologist rivals the geologist in reading the records of the race in the fossils of language. He is a historian of the times before history. He gives us the pedig

of nations whose name and place no modern man could guess. And he wishes to do something for his fellows, to bear his part in improving the condition of the race, and naturally in improving language. The foundation of the science of language is laid in the science of vocal sounds. Every student of the modern science studies phonology. The means of representing sounds by visible signs are also part of his study, and the spelling of the English language, among other things. And so the spelling of the English language has become the opprobrium of English scholars. The greatest scholars were naturally the first to speak out boldly. The greatest genius among grammarians, Jacob Grimm, but a few years ago congratulated the other Europeans that the English had not made the discovery that a whimsical, antiquated orthography stood in the way of the universal acceptance of the language. Now we could fill a volume with exposition and objugation of the unapproachable badness of our spelling, from the pens of eminent Englishmen and Americans.

Bishop Thirlwall, the illustrious author of the "History of Greece," says: —

"I look upon the established system of spelling (if an accidental custom may be so called) as a mass of anomalies, the growth of ignorance and chance, equally repugnant to good taste and to common-sense. But I am aware that the public cling to these anomalies with a tenacity proportioned to their absurdity, and are jealous of all encroachment on ground consecrated by prescription to the free play of blind caprice."

Prof. Max Müller, among a hundred other good things of the same kind, speaks of "the unhistorical, unsystematic, unintelligible, unteachable, but by no means unamendable, spelling now current in England."

Lord Lytton says: —

"A more lying, roundabout, puzzle-headed delusion than that by which we confuse the clear instinct

truth in our accursed system of spelling was never concocted by the father of falsehood. . . . How can a system of education flourish that begins by so monstrous a falsehood, which the sense of hearing suffices to contradict?"

Prof. Hadley says: —

"It cannot be denied that the English language is shockingly spelled."

Prof. Whitney says: —

"There are few in our community deserving the name of scholar who do not confess that a historical spelling is in principle indefensible, that it has no support save in our customs and prejudices."

Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull, says: —

"The popular mind seems awake as never before to appreciation of the difficulties, eccentricities, and absurdities of the present standard-English cacography."

While this movement was going on among the scholars, another stream of influence took its rise among teachers. Few changes of the last century are greater than those in the treatment of children. The methods of discipline and of teaching, and the apparatus for them, are all changed. The main apparatus used to be the rod. And there were hardly any books specially adapted to the capacity and needs of the young. That able men, great men, should make a study of them, invent methods of instruction, write books, make all art and nature tributary to their enjoyment and improvement, is a wholly modern affair. Happy are the youth of the present generation, they have the world at their feet. That some way must be found of teaching reading without tears was plain.

Nor is tenderness for our children all. We have come to recognize the right of manhood, and some of us of womanhood, to a voice in the government. We turn ourselves to the masses. Then the masses must be educated. They must learn to read quickly and easily.

Ignorance is blind and bad, but we had 5,500,000 confessed illiterates at our last census of the United States. The problem of illiteracy has long been familiar to Americans as one of the most important of social science. It has lately come up fresh and fearful in England. A few years ago they extended the suffrage, and they said, "We must educate our masters." They established for the first time a system of public schools. The highest point attempted in the new schools was that the pupil should be able to read with tolerable ease and expression a passage from a newspaper, and spell the same with tolerable accuracy. They turn out about 200,000 annually, who have been thru the course. Ninety per cent of these leave without reaching the standard just mentioned. There are five grades lower. Eighty per cent fall short of the fifth grade, and sixty per cent fall short of the fourth. The bulk of the children, therefore, pass thru the government schools without learning to read and spell tolerably. It is calculated that the country pays for this annually £3,500,000. The time and the money which were to have educated the new masters of England are wasted in a vain attempt to teach them to read and spell. It is fully recognized that the trouble lies in the irregular and unreasonable spelling of English.

Dr. Morell, Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools, says:—

"The main difficulty of reading English arises from the intrinsic irregularity of the English language. A confusion of ideas sets in in the mind of the child respecting the powers of the letters, which is very slowly and very painfully cleared up by chance, habit, or experience, and his capacity to know words is gained by an immense series of tentative efforts. . . . It appears that out of 1,972 failures in the Civil Service examinations, 1,866 candidates were plucked for spelling; that is, eighteen out of every nineteen who failed, is

in spelling. It is certain that the ear is no guide in the spelling of English, rather the reverse, and that it is almost necessary to form a personal acquaintance with each individual word. It would, in fact, require a study of Latin, French, and Anglo-Saxon to enable a person to spell with faultless accuracy, but this, in most cases, is impossible."

Welch boys pick up Welch, and German boys German, without formal teaching of spelling. They read right off as soon as they learn their letters. How to remove this difficulty and how to reform English spelling, is getting to be fully recognized in England as a great problem of social science and of statesmanship. Members of Parliament and dignitaries of the Universities give it anxious thought. In 1876, the National Union of Elementary Teachers, representing some 10,000 teachers in England and Wales, passed almost unanimously a motion in favor of a Royal Commission to inquire into the subject of English Spelling, with a view to reforming and simplifying it. The school board for London took up the matter, and issued a circular asking others to unite in an address to the Education Department in favor of it. The Liverpool and Bradford boards had acted before, and more than a hundred other boards returned favorable replies.

On Tuesday, May 29, 1877, a conference was held in London, at which the Rev. A. H. Sayce, Professor of Philology, Oxford, presided, and in which the President of the Philological Society, H. Sweet, Esq., the Vice-President, J. H. Murray, LL. D., and ex-presidents took part, as well as numerous dignitaries of Church and State, leading schoolmasters and eminent reformers, including Mr. I. Pitman and Mr. Ellis. They spent a day and evening in harmonious discussion, and in listening to short addresses, and adopted a vigorous series of resolutions, which they appointed a committee to present to the Department of Education. The c

vention was a great success, and called forth serious articles in the "London Times," followed, of course, when not preceded, by articles in the whole periodical press of Great Britain. The deputations waited on the Lord President of the council, Jan. 18, 1878, and received a favorable reply.

The disturbed state of Europe has prevented government action, but the reformers have effected a permanent organization, and are hard at work. The practical "workers," as they delight to call themselves, have a permanent base of operations in the printing and publishing house of Isaac Pitman, the famous inventor of our phonetic stenography, who uses his resources also to support phonetic printing. His "Phonetic Journal" has a weekly circulation of some 10,000 copies, and uses an ingenious alphabet of thirty-eight letters, conforming very nearly with the principles of the philologists.

They count much on help from America.

The same two streams of influence have met in America in the action of the American Philological Association.

There have long been known to our teachers a number of more or less ingenious improvements on the old methods of teaching to read. There are the phonetic method, the phonic method, the word method, the word picture method. An article has been copied in the educational journals lately, advocating the last. No attention at all is paid to the sounds of letters, it says. The word is viewed as the picture of an idea, and the pupils are taught to look on letters as parts of a picture, not as representatives of sounds. Teaching to write is teaching to draw pictures. This system is taught by some advanced professors at school institutes.

It is impossible to imagine a more expressive and conclusiv condemnation of our spelling. If this system must be used, we are far behind the Chinese; for co

sidered as pictures, their signs ar far easier than ours to make and to remember. We hav rounded the cycle of civilization and come back to Cathay. In the struggle for life we hav reverted to a prior -Tsang-kie period. But it cannot be quite so bad as that. Our skilfully arranged primers and charts and blocks, with their beautiful and apt pictorial illustrations, hav contributed much to easy teaching. But the best help has come from the Pronouncing Alphabet of Dr. Edwin Leigh. This patriot scholar, whose comprehensive studies of illiteracy giv him a claim to add the name of philosopher to that of artist, has devised a series of modified letters by which the transition from a phonetic alphabet to the standard spelling is effected with little labor. The testimony seems ample that from one to two years of school life ar saved by this invention, and there seems hope of further simplification and gain by it. With all these helps, however, our school superintendents and other students of education ar perplext continually by the spelling problem. All these contrivances of letters and methods ar complicated machinery to teach an unteachable, whimsical mass of anomalies; they ar poor shifts to which we ar driven by the want of a proper alphabet and reasonable spelling.

In 1875 the president of the American Philological Association in the annual address spoke of the reform of spelling as one which students of language ought to promote. On that hint, apparently, appeals wer pourd in upon the Association to take action to direct a popular movement for reform. It was brought before the Association again, in 1876, by the president, J. Hammond Trumbull. A committee was appointed, in the words of the resolution, of " the recognized representatives of our great universities and of linguistic science," to whom the matter was referd. The committee consisted of Professor W. D. Whitney, of Yale College; Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull, of Yale College; Prof. ^r

J. Child, of Harvard University; Prof. F. A. March, of Lafayette College; and Prof. S. S. Haldeman, of the University of Pennsylvania. At the annual meeting, in 1876, at New York, Prof. W. D. Whitney, chairman of the committee, presented a report. It condemns historical spelling. The scholars want no etymology preserved in that way. It condemns pictorial alphabets. It condemns the attempt to have letters for every distinguishable variation of sound; individual and local pronunciations should not have special characters to record them. It describes an ideal alphabet as having one sign, and only one, for each elementary sound. And finally it declares that "the Roman alphabet is so widely and firmly established in use among the leading civilized nations that it cannot be displaced: in adapting it to improved use for English, the efforts of scholars should be directed towards its use with uniformity, and in conformity with other nations." This report was widely published, and commented upon, and assented to. But there was a loud call for more. A definite application of these principles to English spelling was wanted. This was the centennial year. An international convention for the amendment of English orthography met at Philadelphia in August, which called on the Philological Association for more light and more definite direction. It also organized a permanent Spelling Reform Association, and this association chose members of the Philological Association as its committee on new spellings.

Accordingly in 1877, an additional report was made, which gave a Roman alphabet for English use; not perfect, but considerably nearer perfection than most of what are called well-spelt languages, very much on the same plan as reformed German and Spanish. It *fixes the old letters* in their Roman and Anglo-Saxon powers as nearly as may be, accepts the digraph consonants in *h, th, ch, sh*, etc., and declares it necessary

to have three new letters for elementary vowels which were unknown to the early Romans, those in *fat*, *not*, *but*. For these it suggested modifications of *a*, *o*, and *u*. A diacritical mark is added, when great accuracy is needed, to denote a long vowel sound.

This alphabet was set forth, not with any hope of its immediate adoption, but as a guide in making minor changes. It is a necessary preliminary to any intelligent change. *Could* is a standing example of unpardonable spelling; the *l* is sheer blunder, the *ou* has a wrong sound. Shall we write *cud*, *cood*, *kud*, *kood*, *cud*, or what? Before we can tell, we must fix our ideal English alphabet. There are some reformers who think it best to make no compromise, but to begin at once with perfect phonetic spelling. They can take this alphabet, and go right to work with all their might in full harmony with the Association and with the scholars of all countries. But the committee did not stop with telling what we want; they tried to give some helps for the transition stage by which we are to reach it. These consist (1) in the approval of Dr. Leigh's plan of notation, and the recommendation of a few modified letters which seem to be best suited to aid in the transition.

"Transition characters may be used resembling, if possible, two letters:—

For <i>a</i> in <i>fate</i> ,	<i>a</i>	may be used in place of <i>æ</i> .				
" <i>e</i> " <i>mete</i> ,	<i>ë</i>	" " " "	"	"	"	<i>i.</i>
" <i>i</i> " <i>fine</i> ,	<i>î</i>	" " " "	"	"	"	<i>ai.</i>
" <i>u</i> " <i>pure</i> ,	<i>û</i> or <i>ü</i>	" " " "	"	"	"	<i>iu.</i>
" <i>s</i> " <i>as</i> ,	<i>ä</i>	" " " "	"	"	"	<i>z.</i>
" <i>g</i> " <i>gem</i> ,	<i>ğ</i>	" " " "	"	"	"	<i>j.</i>
" <i>c</i> " <i>cent</i> ,	<i>ç</i>	" " " "	"	"	"	<i>s."</i>

These modified forms of the common letters may be used in common books and periodicals, and bring them far towards pure phonetic spelling without embarrass

any reader. (2) Suggestions are made as to the order in which gradual changes may most easily be made.

"New letters can be easiest introduced by using them only for the old letters which they resemble in form. Long words bear change best, and vowels are more easily changed than consonants, which project more above and below the line. Dropping final silent *e* is the easiest change."

This report was adopted by the Philological Association without dissent, and the committee continued another year.

The annual meeting of the Spelling Reform Association was held in July, and the committee on new spellings, Profs. F. A. March, S. S. Haldeman, and W. D. Whitney, made a final report on the schemes of new letters and new spellings referred to them, which recited the action of the Philological Association, and reported for general use and for the publications of the Association the alphabet therein set forth; and recommended the attempt to bring it into immediate use in the manner set forth in the final suggestions of the report.

This report was adopted, no one dissenting. The committee of publication proceeded to prepare a Bulletin, setting forth and illustrating these reports, giving forms of capitals and script letters and directions to printers to imitate the new letters by cutting and inverting common types.

The following is the alphabet. In popular print only the vowels given as short and *a* and *æ* are to be used.

<i>Short.</i>	VOWELS.	<i>Long.</i>
I i, it,		Ī ī = ī, hĭ, poliċ.
E e, met.		Ē ē = ē, potato, thĕy, fare.
A a, at.		ā, fāre (in Americ
ʔ a, ask (see Dictionaries).		ā, fār.

ǫ, nǫr, wall.
 ō, nō, hōly.
 ū, būrn.
 ū, rūle, fool, mūv.

Diphthongs: $\text{I i} = \text{ai}$, fjnd , faind . Qu au , $\text{haus} = \text{house}$.
 $\text{\textcircled{I} ei}$, eil . U u or $\text{Ü ü} = \text{yu}$ or iu , ünit , müsic .

<i>Surd.</i>	CONSONANTS.	<i>Sonant.</i>
P p,	pet.	B b, bet.
T t,	tep.	D d, did.
CH ch,	church.	J Q j, er q, jet, jem.
CK c, er k, q,	cake, cwit (quit).	G g, get.
F f,	fit, filosofer.	V v, vat.
TH th,	thin, pithy.	DH, dh, th, Dhè, thè.
SC s, er ç,	so, çent.	Z z, er z, zone, ia.
SH sh,	shè.	ZH zh, füzhun.
WH wh,	which (in England).	W w, wè.
H h,	hè.	L l, lo. R r, rat. Y y, yè. M m, mè. N o no.
		NG ng, er n, king, ink.

Syllabic: l, nobl, nobla; m, spaam, spaama; n, tokn, tokna.

There was long delay in preparing new types and script plates, partly from the difficulty of the work, and partly from the illness and absence of our hard-workt secretary. Once started, we hav used our types liberally according to our means. Four Bulletins hav been issued and circulated by thousands. Spelling Reform stationery, paper and envelopes with Spelling Reform headings, and various smaller circulars hav also been sent out. Quarterly meetings hav been held at New York, St. Louis, and Boston.

That at St. Louis was a general convention, introduced to the public by able articles in the leading papers, and address by Vice-President Hon. W. T. Harris, and Mr. T. R. Vickroy, in papers which have been printed. The discussions were reported at length.

The convention finally formed itself into a permanent branch of the Spelling Reform Association, which will hold monthly meetings. There was no great assemblage or speech-making at the meetings in New York and Boston.

It may be worth while to mention a few facts to give an idea of what is going on outside the official action of the Spelling Reform Association.

The American Philological Association have issued "The Proceedings" of the July meeting, containing the report of the "Committee on New Spellings," also an abstract of a paper on "Assibilation," by Mr. Wightman. The Association have had two fonts of the new types cut to match those used in the "Proceedings" and in the "Transactions," and papers will be printed in both in any spelling which authors of each may adopt in harmony with the reports. The new volume contains such papers. In the month of August, 1877, at Chicago, Illinois, the Adams, Blackmer, and Lyon Publishing Company, O. C. Blackmer, president, began to introduce the alphabet of the Spelling Reform Association into their widely circulated periodical, "The Little Folks." The letters were introduced gradually in successive months. It now announces that it contains all the new letters, and claims that they embarrass no one, but assist in pronunciation. If this claim shall prove to be well founded, we see the beginning of the end of the old spelling. The publishers have had an advertisement, printed with the new types, inserted in several newspapers. They dispose of large amounts of Spelling Reform stationery. Mr. Blackmer has accepted the position of Director for the Northwest, and has issued the Committee's Reports, and other valuable matter in handsome and convenient *circulars with his new types.*

Resolutions in favor of reform have been passed, and committees appointed upon it by the National Educa-

tional Association, the State Teachers' Associations of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, Illinois, and by many other smaller Teachers' Associations.

The last quarterly period has been marked by special activity in the press and in legislative action. New periodicals in the interest of the reform have been begun by Mrs. E. B. Burns, New York, and Mr. A. Longley, St. Louis; spelling reform departments have been newly announced in the "New England Journal of Education" and in the "Educational Weekly of Chicago"; important new books by Mr. Sweet, president of the Philological Society of London, and by Mr. J. H. Gladstone, have been published by Macmillan & Co., and many articles have appeared in the magazines.

The legislature of Wisconsin has appointed W. C. Whitford, Superintendent of Public Instruction; R. E. Davis, of Dane County; Geo. H. Paul, of Milwaukee; Geo. S. Albee, of Winnebago County; and John B. Quimby, of Sauk County, a commission "to inquire and determine whether any of the proposed reforms in English orthography now under consideration by legislative bodies, or practised in any of the public schools, or commended and approved by associations of scholars and experienced teachers in this country or Europe, can be properly and expeditiously adopted, or otherwise promoted and encouraged, in the public schools, or in the publication of the official documents of this State, or otherwise."

In March, concurrent resolutions passed both houses of the Pennsylvania legislature, authorizing the governor to appoint a commission of six competent persons to report upon an amended orthography for the public documents. No opposition, and some good remarks from Senators Fisher and Allen.

March 6, Senator R. M. Haines introduced a similar resolution into the Senate of Iowa, which passed without opposition, but too late for the other house.

Senator W. W. Fowler, chairman of the Connecticut Legislative Commission, which consists further of Profs. Whitney and Trumbull of Yale, Hart of Trinity, and Van Benschoten of Wesleyan University, with Hon. B. G. Northrop, Secretary of Education, is preparing a volume on the subject for publication in advance of the next session of the legislature. Next winter many more of the States should be moved to action. So should Congress; and to that end memorials have been prepared, and should be widely signed this summer by teachers at their conventions, and by all friends of the reform.

From what has now been said, some just judgment may be formed of what we wish to do.

The Spelling Reform Association wishes to act as a literary bureau to provide lecturers and information, and to make its secretary's office a repository for procuring and disseminating Spelling Reform literature. Orders may be sent to it for new types and for any printed matter of this kind. It wishes also to reprint from the volumes of great authors such parts as bear on the subject. Subscriptions are solicited for the republication in the form of extra bulletins of such passages from the works of Prof. W. D. Whitney, Prof. James Hadley, Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull, and others. It invites authors of pamphlets, articles in periodicals or newspapers, or of reform matter in any shape to send copies to the repository for consultation and distribution. It further solicits subscriptions for reform A-B-C books, charts, blocks, readers, and other school books.

We wish to circulate information about this reform till every one in the country knows about it, to put bulletins, letter-heads, placards, everywhere. We wish *newspapers to print in the alphabet* and about it. We *wish to have teachers' associations indorse it and us; and with them other learned bodies, State legi*

latures and Congress ; and most of all, three and four times most important of all, we want teachers to use the new spelling in their schools. We are to have A-B-C books, readers, charts, letter blocks, and every other apparatus of help, and we want the teachers to use them.

At this meeting we hope a committee may be appointed to prepare and sign a memorial to Congress, and to co-operate in behalf of the reform. We hope all the members will sign our memorial to Congress, each for himself and herself. We hope many will join our association and give their permanent support to the cause.

The following is the Memorial, headed by presidents of the Philological Association and well and widely signed.

MEMORIAL

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled.

This Memorial of the undersigned, members of the American Philological Association, and others, respectfully represents that it is currently stated by leading educators that the irregular spelling of the English language causes a loss of two years of the school time of each child, and is a main cause of the alarming illiteracy of our people, that it involves an expense of hundreds of millions of dollars annually for teachers and for writing and printing superfluous letters, and that it is an obstacle in many other ways to the progress of education among those speaking the English language, and to the spread of the language among other nations.

It further represents that leading educators, among whom are many teachers of much practical experience, and associations of learned scholars, declare it possible to reform our spelling and have proposed schemes of reform.

The prayer of your memorialists therefore is that

honorable body may see fit to appoint a commission to examine and report how far such a reform is desirable, and what amendments in orthography, if any, may be wisely introduced into the public documents and the schools of the District of Columbia, and accepted in examinations for the Civil Service, and whether it is expedient to move the government of Great Britain to unite in constituting a joint commission to consider such amendments.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray; etc.'

It would hardly be right, in presenting the present prospects of the Spelling Reform, to forget that there are obstacles to its progress. One of the worst of these is despair. Men say, great men, who can do almost anything, "The spelling is monstrous, is wicked. I am ready to testify against it. But nothing can be done." Sometimes this despair is an illusion, growing out of not distinguishing language proper from the signs by which it is recorded. Language proper, speech, is a highly complex organism, like man himself. Words, the elements of it, have a twofold nature, on the one side thought, on the other side sound. The laws according to which words are born, grow, and die, are based, partly in man's physical constitution, partly in his mind, partly in his surroundings, and they are among the most subtle and complex of all laws.

Almost none of them have yet been so clearly and quantitatively formulated that they can be applied to predict the future. The best known serve rather as topics for illustration in lectures. The law of least effort, for example, according to which all changes in language move from sounds requiring more effort to those requiring less, so that in the struggle for life among the vocables, those requiring least effort survive, *is accepted as a law parallel with gravitation in the material world, and may be illustrated by examples without number in the history of words.* But man can

make an effort when he pleases, and the conditions of his good pleasure are too subtle to be predicted. The piles of consonants in many words of foreign languages so affright our eyes that we balk at the attempt to pronounce them. "Sneeze three times and say *ski*" is the old direction for starting a man in Polish.

And the speeches of many savage tribes are made up of such heaps of trills and clucks and snorts and hisses and wheezes, that the utterances of them must be feats of vocal gymnastics as prodigious as those of the Chinese jugglers. There is but one man in civilized society who can do these feats. Catch our friend, Prof. Haldeman, — he is the man, — and make a ring about him, and get him to give you a few specimens, and then tell me how they could have arisen according to the law of least effort. The fact is, it is fun to make a noise. The healthy animal rejoices in these Fourth-of-July explosions and orations and cheers and tigers; and the tenderer moods have their own dear delight in the murmurs and croonings and whispers of a summer evening. There is play in language in which effort does not count. The old word for *knife* (*naif*) was *knif*. That the *k* should be dropped is according to the law of least effort; but why change *i* to the long diphthong *ai*? *Loud* was *hlud*; the *h* is dropped according to the law of least effort, but who could have predicted the rise of the diphthong *ou* (*au*)? The fact is, that the peculiar changes of single words are tricked by whim, and the great changes by which the sounds of a whole language are moved, are brought about or modified by causes working often on the physical constitution of whole nations, which we know little of, and with which we could do little if we did know them. We may well despair, therefore, of controlling the history of the spoken language. But the spelling, the written speech, is a different matter altogether; that only a contrivance, a set of tools, machinery, to re-

ages when he works on the Roman types. A new letter has a poor chance to rival the old. All this, however, has gone on independently of the changes in speech. It would hav gone on faster, if speech had never changed. None of the mystery of the changes of pronunciation attaches to it. The difficulties which prevent the change of types ar like those which attend the change of weights and measures. The introduction of new spelling is like the introduction of the sewing-machine. Everybody knows the old way and nobody knows the new. One generation must hav a deal of trouble. We want to find some powerful class whose interest in the change is such that it is best for them to take the trouble. In the new spelling, this class ar the teachers, whose most irksome labors will be lightend, and the publishers, who will hope to win in the new field of adventure in books. Let the teachers start us, and we shall all find heart.

Another serious hindrance nowadays, while we ar just poised to the start, is found in the comical or ridiculous side of the changes.

It has happend that an author whose scholarly conscience compeld him (*noblesse oblige*) to make the change, when the proof-sheets came, has found their queer look and their ridiculous associations quite too much for him. We may strengthen ourselves by reflecting, after Emerson, that nature has no covenant with us that we shall never be ridiculous; or with Burke, that no man ever had a point of weakness that did not some time serve his turn; or with many an awkward lover, that odd things, made familiar in fun, ar by and by chosen in earnest. The world laught at Shakespeare for years, as out of all the rules of all the Greeks and Frenchmen. They laught at him. they laught with him, they wept with him, they love him; till one day a genius turnd critic said, "Wugh at him for being unlike them? Let us laug

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Senator W. W. Fowler
Legislative Commissioner
S. Whitney and Truman
Van Benschoten of Wisconsin.
J. Northrop, Secretary of the
Commission on the subject, has
at the next session of the Legislature
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and communicate the speech. It lies parallel with coins, or weights and measures, and the improvement of it is like the improvement of weights and measures, or, indeed, of telegraphs, sewing-machines, reaping-machines, or any labor-saving machinery. Let a language be given, the problem of recording and communicating it is a problem in the invention of labor-saving machinery. The most natural contrivance was found ready-made in man himself, that microcosm of inventions. The vibrations of the voice that enter his ear make a permanent modification in him, as in the tinfoil of the phonograph, so that he can repeat the sounds at pleasure. Man is, in short, a phonograph.

The first records of speech wer made by calling in witnesses to hear and repeat the language it was desired to record; deeds of land, achievements of kings, sacred rituals, great poems, Iliads, Beowulfs, wer thus recorded and transmitted. Classes of men wer set apart for phonographs. But man is a costly machine, and very perishable, and always getting out of order. Cheaper, trustier, and more durable phonographs wer wanted; and they wer not to be had, for tho there was prophecy of an Edison in the first recordant modifications of the brain, the coming man was not to get to New Jersey for some thousands of years.

They tried records on wood and stone, pictures, then signs of words and syllables, and finally alphabetic writing was invented, the most important invention, it has often been said by philosophers, that man has ever made, by which the memory of twoscore signs of sounds takes the place of that of thousands of signs of things.

Since the invention of letters, improvements have been made year by year in their forms to adapt them better to legibility, speed, and beauty. A page of man type is one of the objects into which most labor is gone. The type-cutter of to-day is heir of all the

ages when he works on the Roman types. A new letter has a poor chance to rival the old. All this, however, has gone on independently of the changes in speech. It would hav gone on faster, if speech had never changed. None of the mystery of the changes of pronunciation attaches to it. The difficulties which prevent the change of types ar like those which attend the change of weights and measures. The introduction of new spelling is like the introduction of the sewing-machine. Everybody knows the old way and nobody knows the new. One generation must hav a deal of trouble. We want to find some powerful class whose interest in the change is such that it is best for them to take the trouble. In the new spelling, this class ar the teachers, whose most irksome labors will be lightend, and the publishers, who will hope to win in the new field of adventure in books. Let the teachers start us, and we shall all find heart.

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It has happend that an author whose scholarly conscience compeld him (*noblesse oblige*) to make the change, when the proof-sheets came, has found their queer look and their ridiculous associations quite too much for him. We may strengthen ourselves by reflecting, after Emerson, that nature has no covenant with us that we shall never be ridiculous; or with Burke, that no man ever had a point of weakness that did not some time serve his turn; or with many an awkward lover, that odd things, made familiar in fun, ar by and by chosen in earnest. The world laught at Shakespeare for years, as out of all the rules of all the Greeks and Frenchmen. They laught at him. they laught with him, they wept with him, they love him; till one day a genius turnd critic said, "W laugh at him for being unlike them? Let us lang

them for being unlike him!" And all the world agreed — slowly. Who knows but the good time may be near when it shall seem ridiculous to write *dough* for *do*, and *phthisic* for *tizic*?

Other obstacles arise from want of agreement among the earnest reformers. We have tried hard and long to agree. We have held conventions, national, international; appointed committees, waited years for deliberations and reports, and accepted them. We have gone thru all the motions; but after all we do not agree. New converts are made every day, and every one makes a new scheme. Converted on Saturday, they incubate Sunday, and print on Monday. Then there are the veterans, Ellis, Pitman, Parkhurst, Longley, Jones, each a tenth legion, an old guard, that never surrenders. Some cannot accept any new letter. Some will take no less than fifteen. Some want diagraphs, some diacritical marks. Their stand against the world inclines them to reject all authority and all compromise. Reformers think for themselves and act for themselves more than other men. We shall come together only as we approach our common goal.

But all things would be in favor of us to-day, if we had money and workers; money, of course, but most of all, active men. The reform is great in its backing of great names. No reform affecting great vested interests has commanded a more general assent from eminent scholars and educators. But from the nature of the case, their support cannot go much further than assent and advice. To be an eminent scholar in these days implies mature, generally advanced age, a life devoted mainly to some special field of original research, pledges to the world and to publishers of *further researches* in the same field, and, most likely, *poverty*, or a pledge of all available money to carry out *long-cherished* plans.

Our own Prof. Whitney, for example, is known to

all the world as bringing the accumulated knowledge and sagacity of a lifetime to his work on Sanskrit. All the world would cry out if he were to give it up in order to devote his days and nights to pushing the Spelling Reform. So of our great master of the Algonkin languages, Dr. Trumbull. A new cause needs new men. And this cause needs young men, men of action. To rising teachers who look to be Normal School professors, or superintendents of instruction, not knowing but they may some time fall into politics and get to Washington at last, and who need to store up pleasant memories to cheer the gloom of a senatorship or presidency, to all the hundreds of aspiring young men who would gladly find a good cause to work in, there is none that offers better promise than the Spelling Reform.

Charles Sumner said the year before he died, "The English language has an immense future. But there must be harmony between the written and spoken word. In helping this reform you are a benefactor."

The great scholar-statesman of England, Gladstone, says that he would gladly lead it, if he were younger, and had some things off his hands, meaning, we may suppose, the Iliad, and the Pope, and the Turk, and the Jew. We want a Gladstone for the United States, an eminent man of action and scholarship, to head our reform, some happier Sumner, some Horace Mann. We want one for every State in the United States. We want a village Gladstone for every town. None such shall rest inglorious.

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BULLETIN
OF THE
SPELLING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Secretary's Office, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 11.

JUNE.

1879.

REFORM IN SPELLING.

To the Editor of The Type-Founder:

Permit me to occupy a portion of the space in your next issue upon a subject of great interest to all who will give it serious thought; and, that what I say may be illustrated as I go along, pray let your compositor "follow copy" in all particulars.

The language which we, as Americans, use in our daily intercourse is a conglomeration, born of various tongues and assimilating countless words from foreign sources. The orthography which prevails is as various as the sources from which the language has come; and more than half the time of our children's school-life is, to a great extent, devoted to the acquirement of the art of correct spelling, and, usually, with very indifferent success. When Caxton, the first English printer, essayed to translate from the French some of the works which have made his name famous for all time to come, he bewailed the rudeness of his "Englysshe," and endeavored to polish it by intercourse with the courtiers of the King.

As printing progressed, says Hon. Josef Medil, "it was found to be inconvenient to spell the same word in several ways on the same page; but there was no dictionary, or other orthographic standard, to settle the conflict; proof-readers and compositors were the only umpires. Type-setters found it very inconvenient to follow the manuscript letter by letter; it was easier to adopt one form or nearly one form of spelling a word, and to pick up the types by memory: proof-readers encouraged uniformity for the beauty of the page, and something like a definite system of spelling gradually worked its way

into printed books. But the printers did not feel at liberty to spel by sound, or to use the letters which most nearly prodest the word; they therefore struck a sort of *average* among the various modes of spelling found in the manuscripts. If a particular digraf or difthong was found more frequently used than another, they wer apt to adopt it. If a popular man wrote a book, the proof-readers would giv his orthograpy of som words the preference. And as printing and publishing were confined to a few establishments, mostly in London, som kind of uniformity was instituted in the orthograpy, and new publishers followed the orthograpy, more or less closely, of the establishment houses." "The age of lexicograpy came to the aid of the proof-reader, to which he clung like a sheet anchor. In 1616, Dr. Bullokar publisht his 'English Expositor,' explaining the meaning and giving som sort of orthograpy to 5,080 words. Another dictionary of 'hard words' was publisht in 1656; a third in 1658, by a newew of Milton. But Nathan Bailey's Etymological Dictionary, in 1726, was the first attempt to giv a complete collection or to settle the orthograpy, until Dr. Johnson prodest his work, in 1755, which has exerted an influenc superior to al others combined in fixing the external forms of words and settling their meaning. But the great Dr. Johnson followed the proof-readers' method of spelling, and simply settled many disputes among them by choosing the one that was oldest or worst. *The orthograpy of the Anglo-Saxon part of our language has thus no higher literary authority than the whims and partialities of proof-readers and type-setters.*" Mr. Medil might hav added that, from the time of Caxton to that of Dr. Johnson, ther wer few efforts made to find better methods or to simplify our orthograpy; the useless labor of spelling words with numerous silent letters was continued.

Our own countryman, Noah Webster, endeavored to reform our orthograpy to a limited extent, by adopting or giving preferenc to the simpler forms which began to creep into use; and he even invented a new system for stil further removing many of the anomalies of our spelling. This was to be effected "by marks, points and alterations of the present characters." Later, Isaac Pitman, of England, presented a fonotypic scheme, consisting of forty characters — retaining twenty-three letters of the present alfabet and adding seventeen new ones. Many advanced thinkers hartily indorst Mr. Pitman's scheme, and an American convention went stil farther and added thre more letters to the alfabet. Books and newspapers wer publisht in the fonetic types; and for a time it did really seem as if *we wer going to hav a genuin reformation.* But Usage and Habit, *which hav becom a sort of second nature,* took the alarm. The new *characters had in many instances to be guesst at; and the majority*

of the people wer too indolent or too careles to be willing to giv the little time and labor necessary to master the now system. Prejudice was stronger than Principle, and the new reform seemed to hav almost died out.

But ther wer earnest, thoughtful men stil at work. Recognizing the fact that it is impossible to induce the millions of English-speaking people to adopt a new alfabet or even to countenanc any radical changes in the old one, the reformers hav at last set out in the right way, and ar now endeavoring to effect their ends by gradual approaches, even as a skilful general makes slow advances upon a fortres deemed wel nigh impregnable. The American Filological Association—composed of som of the ablest scholars in the country—has indorst and recommended the immediate adoption of the following changes in the orthografy of eleven words in common use:

Tho, thru, gard, catalog, ar, giv, liv, hav, definit, infinit, wisht.

T-h-o spells tho as much as n-o spells no; t-h-r-u for through is better than b-l-u-e for blue, for it has no silent letters; g-a-r-d is as good a guard as re-gard; c-a-t-a-l-o-g is as good as a log of wood; a-r is as good as car or bar; e has no more business in giv, liv and hav than in giving, living or having. E is as unnecessary at the end of definit and infinit as an extra tail would be at the front end of a dog; he can't make any use of it. Wisht is the oldest and best form of the past participle of the verb to wish, and has the sanction of the writers of the purest English.

These few changes in orthografy hav several advantages. They ar simple and easily understood. They hav the sanction of the highest filological authority in our country, so that any newspaper or periodical may adopt them without suspicion of eccentricity or pedantry. They require no new types or changes of old ones, altho they wil ad to the economy of printing, by the saving of time, labor and space. They ar each and al in the regular and proper tendency of our language to greater simplicity, which ought to be sedulously encouraged. It wil not be necessary, in the adoption of the changes above cited, for any editor or publisher to "make a blow" about it; he has only to inaugurate the change, tel his critics that he knows how to spel better than they do—and in les than a twelvmonth he and his readers wil be astonisht at the ease with which the "revolution" has been accomplisht, and—that no one ever thought of it before! In recommending to you and other publishers the adoption of these changes, I am taking no very advanced ground—not even so advanced as I am myself willing to stand upon. For I hartly concur in—and in this letter hav endeavored to conform to—the ru

recommended by the Spelling Reform Association "for immediate use." They are as follows:

1. Omit *a* from the digraf *ea* when pronounst as *e* short, as in *hed*, *helth*, etc.
2. Omit silent *e* after a short vowel, as in *hav*, *giv*, etc.
3. Write *f* for *ph* in such words as *alfabet*, *fantom*, etc.
4. When a word ends with a double letter, omit the last, as in *eg*, *shal*, *clif*, etc.
5. Change *ed* final to *t* when it has the sound of *t*, as in *lasht*, *imprest*, etc.

If any one thinks that the adoption of these rules will create confusion, he has only carefully to observ the orthograpy of this communication; and I opine that only the veriest old foggy wil object to any part of it, except it be indust for induced, and produst for produced—and for those the rules ar not to blame.

The objection has been and wil be made to the foregoing amended spellings that they ar "inconsistent." Granted; but what does that prove? Ar they any more so than the following?

copy	sloppy	folks	coax
pity	ditty	dry	die
dole	bowl	witch	which
control	enroll	scourge	urge
clef	cliff	dirge	merge
touch	much	breeze	cheese
propel	{ foretell	tongue	rung
speak	{ gazelle	opaque	take
foe	speech	wright	recite
know	no	height	rite
schism	so	indict	might
one	sink	aisle	smile
two	wonder	laugh	half
sing	do	through	due
	fine	enough	stuff

These sample words ar taken at random, and show how absurd is the cry of inconsistency on the part of those who cling to the old orthograpy. Ther is only one *consistent* way of spelling, and that is purely fonetic. That, however, it is not the purpose of the writer to advocate at this time, for, as stated before, the prejudices of the people against too radical changes cannot be quickly overcom.

For the reason above specified, we do not at this time advocate the dropping of the silent letters in the middle of words. We only urg the adoption of the Spelling Reform Association's rules, for the sake of helping the work of reducing our orthograpy to something like a consistent system. The rules ar so brief, concise and unmistakable that "*he who runs may read, tho he be a fool.*"

The opponents of spelling reform claim that the present spellings preserve the etymology of words—embalm their history, as it wer, *a enduring letters*. If such be the case, we should go back to the

time of Caxton, and retain such spellings as these, which we copy from the first two pages of the statutes of Henry VII, in the Franklin Society Library:

CAXTON.	MODERN.	CAXTON.	MODERN
auctoritie	authority	lorde	lord
accyon	action	londes	lands
ony	any	lettres	letters
advyce	advice	lyke wyse	likewise
auncestre	ancestor	maner	manner
agayne	again	marchauntis	merchants
bi	by	marchaundyses	merchandise
chirch	church	ofte tymes	ofttimes
carie	carry	ordeyned	ordained
comen	common	oute	out
certain	certain	profyte	profit
conceyved	conceived	persones	persons
ceased	seized	paye	pay
daye	day	remayndre	remainder
dyverse	divers	richesse	riches
delaid	delayed	sovereyn	sovereign
demaundant	demandant	spirituell	spiritual
deyed	died	sayd	said
deynszeyns	denizens	subjettes	subjects
Englonde	England	stablyshed	established
Fraunce	France	shold }	should
fourm }	form	sholde }	
fourme }		soo	so
foloying	following	settyng	setting
grantes	grants	suffre	suffer
grete	great	shippe	ship (verb)
havyng	having	tyme	time
hym	him	wherof	whereof
Irelonde	Ireland	whiche	which
yf	if	yere	year
kynge	king		

The readers of Chaucer and Spenser can cite numberles other instances than these wher the modern spellings hav left out the etymology and varied from ancient customs. We violate etymological and historical rules, every day of our lives, when we spel fantom with a p-h, and its cognate, fantasy, with f; n-e-p-h-e-w, from the French *neveu*, and c-i-p-h-e-n, from *chiffre*; p-r-o-g-r-a-m-m-e, which has the same source as anagram, diagram, epigram and a number of similar words of Greek origin. We pad our words with numberles silent letters, as haughtiness, from the French *hauteur*; dispatch from *depeche*; parliament, from *parlement*; jealousy, from French *jealousie*, or Latin *zelus*, or Greek *zelos*. Shakspear wrote drest, adrest and exprest, while in our degenerate days we must string them out as dressed, addressed and expressed, without changing their pronounciation or signification.

Now, what is the use of the inconsistent, clumsy orthograpy of the language we use? Is ther any necessity for the waste of time, money and labor involved in lerning to spel English words and then in writing and printing them with fifteen to twenty per cent of the letters silent? Reading and writing ar "merely the tools with wh

to dig out knowledge;" and we certainly are behind our age if we persist in using such cumbersome tools as our ancestors of centuries ago were content with, when lighter and *handier* ones are so near at hand.

"The final supremacy of the English language, in the far-away future, is foreshadowed by the pushing activities of English and American enterprise, commerce, conquest and missionary zeal. This is conceded by foreign scholars, free from prejudice, who see in our language characteristics that are well fitted to conciliate the Latin and Teutonic races. In flexibility, power of expression and vigor of idioms, no other modern tongue can equal the English. It has already more than 120,000 words, and each year is adding to its hospitable vocabulary. Wherever it goes, it exhibits a greed for new acquisitions. No other language has given a hearty welcome to so many alien words.

"Foreign critics tell us that the progress of our language is needlessly hindered. They cannot understand why English should be handicapped in the struggle now going on between the languages of civilization. They call it a monstrous cruelty to perpetuate the tyranny of absurdities and irregularities that fill our school-houses with misery, and keep millions of English-speaking people in lifelong bondage to the unabridged dictionary. The more closely we study the history of our composite language, the deeper will the conviction grow that our written words ought to be, not whimsical, law-defying and troublesome oppressors, but loyal and obedient servants, falling nimbly and aptly into their places without the help of a search-warrant."

Here let me say that several journalists and educators have given their hearty assent to the adoption of the few changes in orthography which have received the sanction of the Filological Association; and if THE TYPE-FOUNDER and other typographical journals will assent to them, they will soon become incorporated in our language, and the spelling reform will be well under way. God speed the day!

H. R. B.

As the foregoing letter—originally published in *The Type-Founder* Chicago, and intended for circulation among printers—is destined to reach a wider constituency than was at first hoped for, the writer wishes to add a few words in further argument in favor of reform in orthography. He does not expect that his own views upon this subject—to the extent of adopting the "rules for immediate use" recommended by the Spelling Reform Association—will meet with immediate and general concurrence, even among those who condemn our present

cumbersom modes of spelling and desire to adopt simpler ones. But he *does* believe that the eleven emendations named on page 3, back up, as they ar, by the highest filological authority in this country, can be brought into general use in a very short time, if only those who favor reform wil themselves adopt them and endeavor to induce others to do likewise. Every argument against their use can be redily met with more forcible ones ; and a very few workers, especially if they hav an extended correspondenc or control any periodical publication, can, by the constant use of them, so habituate their friends and correspondents to the sight of them that they wil soon lose their appearanc of oddity and, by their simplicity, commend themselves to popular favor. Habit and usage, which so often stand in the way of progres and reform, may be made to do good servic in the right direction, in this matter, if the real friends of reform wil hav the courage to step forward and utilize them.

Very few persons are insensible to ridicule, and this alone has don more to retard the progres of spelling reform than anything els. Every school child looks with pity or contempt upon "poor spellers," and few stop to reflect that orthograpy is the most arduous of al the studies placed before our children, consisting, as it does, almost entirely of *committing to memory the few hundred words in common use*, trusting to the lexicon to aid in getting over those more rarely used.

It has been wel suggested that one of the most effectiv modes of advancing the spelling reform would be for certain classes—say religious editors in one, mechanical editors in another, printers in another, and so on—to unite and say that from and after a certain date they would adopt the recommendations of the Filological Association and also certain emendations in the technology of their own busines. The succes of this plan has been wel tested in the adoption of the new spelling of catalog by nearly every prominent librarian in this country ; and ther is good reason to believe ~~that~~ in a few years no treatis upon bibliograpy wil be publisht which shal contain the obnoxious *ue*. Alredy, some of our typograpical journals hav adopted the emendations heretofore advocated, and it is hoped that others wil soon "fal into line" and keep step to the music of progres.

In conclusion, the writer would urg al who feel any interest in this important subject to join the Spelling Reform Association and to do al else in their power to forward the reform. The cost of membership is but \$1 per annum, and secures to the member a copy of each of the Bulletins issued, which wil be found not only to giv a current history of the progres made in this movement, but also afford important hints and suggestions as to the best modes of advancing the work.

H. R. B

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BULETIN
OF THE
SPELING REFORM ASOSHIASHUN.

General Offices, 32 Hawley Street, Boston.

No. 12.

JULY.

1879.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Asōshiashun met as a Depārtment ev the Nashunal Ejucashunal Asōshiashun at Filadelfia, Tüada, Jülü 29, at 3 p. m.

President Märch red the fūrst paper, "On the Present Stat ev the Speling Reform in America."

The Asōshiashun wea organīzd in 1876. The fūrst thing it trīd tu dū wea tu cōncētrat and stimūlat disatisfacshun with the ōld speling. Hwet has bin dun in this wea shōn in Profesōr Märch's paper, bī kwotashun frēm ōtheritīa in filēlogi, ejucashun and sōshal sjēnc, Max Müller, Dr. Merris, Bīshōp Thīrlwell, Profs. Hadley, Whitney, and Trumbull, Chārles Sumner, W. E. Gladstone, and uthers. Further accūnt wea gīvn ev acshun bī tēchers and filēlogists; the mūvmēt in favor ev a reyal cēmīshun en referm ev speling, bī the Nashunal Ūnyun ev Elementari Tēchers, representīng 10,000 tēchers in Ingland and Wales, secūnded bī the skūl bōrda ev Lūndon, Liverpūl, and mōr than wun hundred uther placea, as wel as bī a cōnvēnshun in hwīch profesōra ev Ōxford and Cambrīdg, the president and ex-presidents ev the Filōlogīcal Soçjetī, and nūmerus digniteria ev Chūrçh and Stat tuk pārt. Then the acshun ev the American Filōlogīcal Asōshiashun wea spōkn ev, with its representatīva frēm 30 ūnīversitīa, 12 thēōlogīcal semīneria, and mōr than 100 tēchīng

celegea; the repōrts ev its cemitī en the reform; the me-
mōrial tu Cōngres, sīnd bī its members and uthera.

Then the acshun bī varius celegea and üniversitā in favor
ev the memōrial, and bī ejucashunal organizashuna, the
American Institut ev Instrucshun, the Nashunal Ejucashun-
al Asōshiasahun, the Depārtment ev Public Instrucshun in
Chicōgo, hwīch ünanimusli reaelvd tu cōrespond with uther
bōrda tu urg the reform; the Stat Tēchera' Asōshiasahuna
ev Masachūsets, Nū Yerk, Pensilvania, Ohjo, Nū Jūral, Ilinel,
Iowa, Mishigan, Wiscensin, Misūri, Vūrginia, and caunti
institutū and uther tēchera' asōshiasahuna ēl ōvr the cuntri.
Then the acshun bī Stat legislachura, Ceneticut, Pensil-
vania, Wiscensin, Iowa,—and the repōrts ev cemitia ap-
einted bī Stat legislachura.

Then the pres wea menshund, espeshali the favorabl in-
terest and ōpn celum ev the ejucashunal jūrnala; the article
in magazīna and in transacshuna ev lūrned soçjetia, and in
buks, līk thōa ev Whitney, Hadley, Müller, Ellis; and the vel-
tūma devōted tu spelīng reform bī Mr. Swēet, president ev the
Filological Soçjeti ev Lundon, and bī Mr. J. H. Gladstone.
The asōshiasahun haa publisht a bibliografi ev this literachur.

In ēl this cōpius expreshun ev interest, Profesor Mārsh
sed that hē did net nō ev a sligl scelar er eminent ejucator
ev the nū generashun hū haa cum out in favor ev the ōld spel-
īng. Sum ev our venerabl chēfs, līk the Hēn. G. P. Mārsh,
our minister tu Itali, and Dr. Mōrris, cōfes thār ūrli pre-
jūdiç, but declār the argūments fer reform tū wati tu bē
reajsted. Hestiliti tu the ōld spelīng and a general interest in
its reform haa nau becum the fashun.

In the secund plaç the paper tuk up, "Hwet dū wē propōa
fer nū spelīng? Hwet sōrt ev changea ār wē tu hav?" In
anser it wea sed that an īdeāl alfabet haa bin full set fōrth bī
cemitia and adepted bī the asōshiasahun. This is intended tu
sūrv aa a gīd in making changea in the spelīng ev particulār
wūrda. It is ēlsō intended aa a sōrt ev metric er sçientific

alfabet, tu bē ūad in dicshuneria, rēding-buks, etç., tu giv pronunshiashun, in filological trētisea in hwich speshal indicashun ev pronunshiashun is nēded, and in geograpical and uther sijentific wūrks in hwich fōrin er strang wūrda ār ūad. A kē alfabet fēr cōncūrent ūs with thē ōld alfabet, tu help it out, is much nēded nau, and thē alfabet ev thē fūchur is thē prōper wun tu ūa. It haa bin thē peliçi ev thē asōshiashun tu encurag ēl changea ev spelling hwich tend tōward this alfabet ev thē fūchur. Thār ār ōnli thrē nū tips in this alfabet, but fēr skūl-buks and children'a papera, Dr. Lēigh'a plan ev ūeing meni mōdifid tips haa prūvd valūabl and it haa bin recōmended and ūad bī thē asōshiashun aa a temporeri mater. Meni wūrda can bē changd in thē rīt direcshun without ūeing eni nū tips, and thē asōshiashun haa advīad such changea: hav, giv, liv, ār thē simplest; elevn wūrda ār recōmended bī thē Filological Asōshiashun, — ār, catalog, definit, gārd, giv, hav, infinit, liv, thō, thrū, wisht. Thē fēloing ār wīdli nōn aa thē "fū rūla:" 1. Omit a frēm thē digraf ea hwen pronouncd aa e-shert, aa in 'hed,' 'helfh,' etç. 2. Omit sīlent e after a shert vauel, aa in 'hav,' 'giv,' etç. 3. Rīt f fēr ph in such wūrda aa 'alfabet,' 'fantom,' etç. 4. Hwen a wūrd enda with a dubl leter, omit thē last, aa in 'shal,' 'clif,' eg,' etç. 5. Chang ed fīnal tu t hwār it haa thē saund ev t, aa in 'lasht,' 'imprest,' etç.

In thē thūrd plaç an accunt wæs givn ev thē introducshun ev rēfermd spelling intū acchual ūs. 1. Spelling with nū tips is ūad in thē publicashuna ev thē Spelling Rēfōrm Asōshiashun and thē Filological Asōshiashun, in Lēigh'a and Vickrey'a skūl-buks, in thē transacshuna ev thē Misūri Stat Tēchera' Asōshiashun, in varius nūapapera and pēriodicala. 2. Spelling without nū tips is ūad in a much lārger number ev buks and pēriodicala, espeshali in ejucashunal jūrnala and thē ōrgana ev thē printera. Thē nū-tip printing is cōstli, and is mishuneri wūrk aa yet, thē uther changea ār econōmical, and a rēvolūshun is iminent amung thē gēnēral nūa

papera. Sientists hav ělsō begun tu adept refērmđ spelling ev thār ōn technical tūrma: thē American Ljbreri Asōshiasun ūs catalog, and hav bibliografi under cōsiderashun.

Thē Nashunal Asōshiasun ev Great Britain fēr thē Promōshun ev Sōshal Sjenç, after long deliberashun bj a cōmiti, haā a repōrt befōr it in favor ev an alternativ spelling, lj thē alfabet ev thē fūchur, fēr sientific purposea.

Dr. Murray, thē editor ev the grat "Histerical Dicshneri ev thē Inglish Filolōgical Soçjeti," sūn tu bē publiht bj thē pres ev Ōxford Ūniversiti, wishea tu ūs such an alfabet fēr hia kē-pronunshiasun. And after its ūs thār an edishun ev thē nū translashun ev thē Bjbl ma bē expected in it, and then thē refērm ma bē cōsiderd fīnali setld, and its general ūs ōnli a kweschun ev tīm. Thē ār ia ful ev hōp, but if thē refērm ia tu tak a çenchuri, it ia hī tīm it wūr begun.

A paper en "Thē Spelling Refērm in Ingland," bj E. Jōnā, B.A., ev Liverpūl, wea red bj Mrs. Eljza Būrna. Thē paper had bin printed bj Mr. Jōnā. Thē felolng extract explana hwet thē prīncipal fēchur ev hia sistem ia, and shōa hau it luks in print:

"The Anglo-American method moreover differz from the plan advocated by filolōjists, in that it employz the leterz *a, e, i, o, u*, tu denote the sounds which they most comonly represent in English wordz, namely, those in *mat, met, hid, rod, nut*. In the French, Jerman, and uthēr European languages *a* denotes the vowel-sound in *far*, *e* that in *fate*, *i* that in *feel*, *o* that in *foe*, and *u* that in *food*. Theze forin valuez forā the basis ev the filolōjical plan, but Anglo-American spelling reformerz beleev that the suces ev this moovment dependz largely on its keeping in harmony with the peculiar lingual development and alfabetical uzajes ev English-speaking nashonz."

Mr. Jōnā stated in hia paper that thē kweschun ev rashunal spelling wil, in Ingland, at lēst, hav tu bē fēt out in thē Haus ev Cōmona, and thē namā ev a hūf-duzn er mōr ev thē memberz wūr givn aa bëing thōa ev men hū wūr redi tu champion thē cēz, and in thē faç ev a veri febl eposashun.

The last paper red at this seshun wea bi Profesor Halde-
man en "The Etimological Objecshun tu Speling Refërm."

Tu sa that an älterd speling wud interfer with the studi
ev etimoloji, ia vürshūali tu asürt that Dr. Jehnsen, in the last
çençhuri, wea the gratest ev etimologists, bëcëa the speling
wea setld chëfli bi him; yet hë wea aa litl ev an etimologist
aa thōa ār hū üa this ärgüment. Jehnsen haa bin süpersëded
bi Webster, Mühn, Latham, and uthera, and rëçentli Skëat
haa ishud the füst pärt ev hia "Etimological Dicshuneri,"
tu variua points ev hwich Swëet taks ecçepshun, älthō hë
aprëshiats the merits ev the würk. Fër egaampl, sum ev
Profesor Skëat's cönclūzhuna ār stated tu bë "agenst ël lëa
ev saund-chang." Profesor Haldeman replis tu Archbishop
Trench aa the chëf epōaer ev speling refërm, hū tris tu shō
the neçesiti ev retaning y in 'analyse'; but hau wud hë get
rid ev u in 'so-lu-tion,' ev v in 'sol-ve,' and oo in 'loo-s-en,'
—ël frëm the sam rüt? And hau distingwish lu ev 'solution'
frëm a diferent lu in 'diluvial'? Hwël Trench clinga tu
hia y'a with sō litl wiadom, hë mislëda bi çiting a cegnat
pär, aa "spirit" and "spright," hwär etimologi and üsag
rekwjr "sprite." Etimologi rekwjra fñal^z-(short) i in
'bloody' (blodig), 'history' (historia), 'sturdi' (estourdi),
'tardy' (tardif) and meni mör.

SECOND DQ.—WEN2DQ, JULI 30.

A paper en the subject ev "Speling Refërm in Jörnalliam,"
bi Mr. S. N. D. Nörth, ev the "Herald," Ütica, N. Y., wea
red.

Langwag haa a hjer purpos than tu cönçel idëaa. That
purpos ia shärd bi speling, hwich ia ajustabl lik mashineri,
and hwich this Asōshiasshun ama tu refërm. In the wa ev
that refërm thär ia but wun sërivs obstacl—the dificulti ev
the füst plunç. This step shud bë takn bi the jörnallist.
Würda ār hia tūla. Let him profit bi the invenshuna ev sienc

Yonger than the English langwag, jŕrnaliŕm haa cŕt up with and past it. Yet it stil rests under a bendag aa slavish aa enl that it haa escapt, and ia stil the sŕrf ev the erthegrafi ev illiterat printera ev the 16th ęenchuri. Yet the pres ma, if it wil, dictat the speling ev the cŕntinent. In 1870, 5,871 papera,—wun-thŕrd ev them dalla,—printed 1,508,548,230 cŕpia. Everibedi rŕda the papera, and the majŕriti ev the nŕspaper cŕnstichuentŕ rŕrli luk intu a buk. The indirect influenę ev the pres, hwich ia evn grater than its direct, ia lŕrgli egaŕted ęn the vurnacŕlar, and haa produęt mŕst ev the changea in speling dŕring the last ęenchuri. Henę, the pres ia the nachural agenę ev the deaŕrd refŕrm. Let it adeęt the imprŕvd erthegrafi and the wŕrk ia aęomplisht. Fonetic speling shud bŕ adeęted bi ęl at wunę, and it cud bŕ; but that ia imęesibl in jŕrnaliŕm. The paper wud bŕ ilegibl.

A jŕrnal that ęl at wunę had a leter fŕr everi saund wud lŕa its cŕnstichuenęi, evn if it cud refŕrm its tip. It must bring about the chang bi deęrŕa. It mŕt, fŕr instanę, lŕv aut a from ea, aa in 'hed,' 'helth,' etę.; ęmit the sŕlent e, aa in 'hav' and 'giv'; rŕt f fŕr ph; omit the later ev dubl letera, and chang ed tu t in 'lasht,' 'imprest,' and kindred wŕrda. After this chang wea efected, another cud bŕ trŕd. Everi tendenęi in jŕrnaliŕm ia tŕward a mŕr simpl tipegrafi. If capitale, italica, and pŕpęchuashun mŕrka ęr refŕrmd, hwŕ net speling? Hundreda ev sŕlent letera,—the gravstŕna ev former methoda ev pronunshiashun,—hav vanisht; hwŕ shud net the rest gŕ, ęlsŕ? The fŕnal me ia disapŕring frŕm 'programme'; the fŕnal te frŕm 'quartette'; and the wŕrda gan manlines. Hwŕ cari ęn the bak ev ęur 'borough'? Hŕ wil mis ęe frŕm 'demageę'? Hwŕ ęa ph hwen f ia beter? In jŕrnaliŕm, the changea wud sav tŕm and muni; nŕrli a leter tu a lŕn in everi cŕlum. Jŕsh Bilŕnga haa shŕn that the best wa tu rŕch a gŕvn peint ia the bŕ-lŕn, and hia speling helps hia wŕt.

After revŕing hwet the ęther clamd tu bŕ an absŕrdli unneęesari ęs ev hwŕmsicali-plaęt letera under the ęld methoda, the

paper recited the practical, economical advantages that cud be gand bi the disus ev silent leters. A cārful egzaminashun had prūvd that it wud sav an averag ev wun leter a līn in a cōlum ev 248 līna, hwich wud be ecwivalent tu 7,500 līna pur da in the hōl papr, ēr 2,000,000 a yēr, wun thūrti-sixth ev the total leters ūad. A saving lik this wud amaunt tu \$105,000 a yēr in composishun bila ev the London Nūz, and \$200,000 per anum in thōa ev the London Tīma.

In concludng his paper, Mr. Nōrth spōk as feloa: Hwi shal net jūrnalliam centribūt ev its abundant mīt tu mak aur glō-riua Inglish langwag net ōnli the mōst affluent and cēnçis, but the ealest and mōst filosefical ev ritn langwagea, crauning it with a nū glōri as it mārchea en its cējking wa? Çheval-ēra ev the pres ! Let us wag wōr agenst the despotism ev the dicshuneri.

Hēn. W. T. Harris, superintendent ev public instrucshun ev St. Luis, Mo., sed a practical valū ev the refērmēd speling, hē thēt, ia faund in the ēpertūniti it wud afōrd tu self-ejucated pūrsona—a tūrm, hwich, hē belēvd, aplīa tu the masea in a çūrten sens—tu pūrfect thār pronunshiashun. Hē ōlsō spōk upen “The Pōtençi ev Capriç,” shōing the influens ev indivijuals upen the propōad refērm. Hē spōk ev the grat gud that wud reault tu the cōa if the pēpl ev Ingland wūr tu tak a lēd in the mūvment.

It wea reaelvd that the Nashunel Ejucashunal Asōshiashun be urgēd tu print thār transacshuna and uthēr decūments in amended speling.

It wea ōlsō reaelvd that the preasident be askt tu bring the speling refērm befōr the Sōshal Sjenç Asōshiashun.

The mētinga wūr crauded. The papera provōkd veri gen-eral discushun, partiçipated in bi Dr. Haldeman, Hēn. W. T. Harris, Mr. Nudsun, Hēn. W.D. Henkel, President Gārnet ev St. Jena Cōleg, Profesor Franklin Taylor, Mr. Françia Wells ev the “Evening Buletin,” Rev. H. L. Wayland ev the “Nash-unal Baptist,” Elīza B. Būrna ev Nū Yōrk, and uthēra.

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1880.

[From the "News Letter," Grinnell, Iowa.]

AN ORTHOGRAPHIC DIALOG.

BY PROF. S. G. BARNES, IOWA COLLEGE.

[Spelt according to the Five Rules.]

SCENE, *a library; Mr. True engaged in writing an article on the Speling Reform; George busy with his spelling book:*

G. N-a-y; is that what a horse does, Pa?

Mr. T. No, that is n-e-i-g-h.

G. Al that for just na; and not one ov its letters sounds like a! Pa, what does w-h-e-y spel?

Mr. T. That is whey, a kind ov drink.

G. So e-y means a too. What is y-e-a, sir?

Mr. T. Yea, the same as yes.

G. Why don't they spel it just y-a?

Mr. T. Wel, long ago they used to pronounce it two ways, and we take our spelling from one and our pronunciation from the other.

G. (puzzld, but returning to his book). R-e, ree.

Mr. T. No, that's *re*, a note ov music; it's a French word.

G. Is croquet a French word?

Mr. T. Yes, but that is c-r-o-q-u-e-t.

G. That's different, then?

Mr. T. Yes, the French hav a dozen different ways ov speling the final a sound, and we copy them al carefully when we use their words.

G. (gloomily interested). I'm going to see how many different ways I can spel a word. Ther's vane; that might be v-a-y-n, v-e-i-g-h-n, v-e-y-n, v-e-a-n, to say nothing ov French ways. Pa, how is vane spelt?

Mr. T. The vane on the steepl is v-a-n-e; what the blood runs thru is v-e-i-n; vain, as a pea-cock, is v-a-i-n.

G. Whew; four gueses, and not one ov them right! Wel, I'l try another. Ther's rain; that might be r-a-y-n, r-e-i-g-h-n, r-e-y-n, r-e-a-n, r-e-y-n, r-a-i-n. Some one ov these seven must be right. How is rain spelt, Pa?

Mr. T. Different ways. The water is spelt r-a-i-n, the horse's rein is r-e-i-n, the king's reign is r-e-i-g-n.

G. (after a pause). Two out ov seven wer right, anyhow. (Returns to his book). M-a-d-e, made; a-n-y, ayny.

Mr. T. No, that's enny.

G. (aside). That's queer; what's the use ov *having* leters if you can't tel how they ar pronounced? Pa, is b-a-d-e bayd? or bed?

Mr. T. Neither; it is bad.

G. (rather helpless). Is that so? B-a-d e, bade; l-a-d-e, lad.

Mr. T. No, that's lade, to load.

G. I thought l-a-i-d spelt laid.

Mr. T. So it does; laid an egg, you know.

G. (looking as if he wisht laying eggs wer his busines). L-a-i-d, laid; p-l-a-i-d, played.

Mr. T. No, that's plad.

G. How ar you going to tel about these things?

Mr. T. O, you'v just got to remember; ther's no teling.

G. (resuming). P-l a i-d, plad; b-r-a-i-d, brad; that's a nail, isn't it, Pa?

Mr. T. No, that's b-r-a-d; b-r-a-i-d spels braid.

G. O, yes; what a funny noise.

Mr. T. No, that's b-r-a-y-e-d. You ad e-d to bray, you know.

G. Yes, sir; bray, brayed; then paid is p-a-y-e-d, isn't it?

Mr. T. No, that's different, paid.

G. (resuming his book). Here's s-a-i-d; I suppose that's sayed.

Mr. T. No, that's sed.

G. (with chastend interest). Is bread b-r-a-i-d. Pa?

Mr. T. No, you just had that. The loaf ov bread is b-r-e-a-d; then ther is b-r-e-d, bred and raisd, you know.

G. I am going to see how meni different ways weighed can be spelt. W-a-d-e, w-a-i-d, w-a-y-e-d. O, that's not so bad. Let's see; which shal I gues? I'll take w-a-d-e. Pa, how is weighed spelt?

Mr. T. What do you mean?

G. Why, weighed a thing, you know.

Mr. T. That's w-e-i-g-h-e-d.

G. How did g and h ever get in ther?

Mr. T. Ther used to be a g in it centuries ago, and that often changed to h. We don't pronounce either now, but we write them both, to make up.

G. (desperately seeking another colum). A-i-s-l-e, what does that spel, Pa?

Mr. T. Aisle; the s isn't pronounst, and a-i equals i.

G. Why is the s ther, sir, if we don't sound it?

Mr. S. Ther's another word, i-s-l-e, an island, that used to hav an s sounded in it; and this aisle got spelt like it.

G. That was a mistake, wasn't it?

Mr. T. Yes, but it isn't now. It's ther and ther it must stay. You wudn't want to spel it without the s and be cald a bad speler, wud you?

G. (sobered by this appeal). Is file f-a-i-s-l-e, Pa?

Mr. T. No, that's f-i-l-e; that's easy enuf.

G. Yes, if one cud only tel just which wer the *easy words*. Here is f-a-i-r. I wonder whether

that's pronounst like aisle. Pa, what does f-a-i-r spel?

Mr. T. Fair.

G. Yes, your fare on a car.

Mr. T. No, that's f-a-r-e; f-a-i-r is just, right.

G. (aside). It isn't fair that I shudn't hav any idea how tu spel the thing. Pa, is prayer p-r-a-r-e, or p-r-a-i-r?

Mr. T. Neither; it's p-r-a-y-e-r. You ad e-r to pray.

G. (musing). Let me see. They is probably t-h-a-y, and their is t-h-a-y-e-r.

Mr. T. No—t-h-e-y and t-h-e-i-r; then ther is t-h-e-r-e, the adverb.

G. Who wud hav thought it? Now ther's—wel, I wud like to spel it just p-a-r; I supose that might be spelt p-a-i-r, p-a-y-e-r, p-e-y-e-r, p-e-i-r, p-e-r-e.

Mr. T. Yes, and several other ways. But we never happend to spel anithing p-e-y-e-r or p-e-i-r. P-a-i-r is a coupl; p-e-r-e is French for father; p-a-y-e-r is pronounst pay-er, one who pays. And then ther is p-a-r-e, to pare an apl, and p-e-a-r, the fruit.

G. (aghast). How am I ever going to lern al these things? I hav just bin jumping around the a's and havn't got half thru them. And ther ar twenty-six leters in the alfabet! Ar they al as bad as that?

Mr. T. No; you hav struck some especialy hard things to-day.

G. How long does it take to lern the English speling, Pa?

Mr. T. That depends. Some persons lern very easily from seeing the words in print. From a half to two-thirds of the time most peopl spend in school is spent in lerning to read and spel.

G. And do they lern?

Mr. T. Some do : but mistakes in speling ar frequent even among peopl who claim to be educated. But ov course they can't be, if they don't know how to spel.

G. I wish I didn't hav to lern.

Mr. T. O, you must hav somthing to keep you out ov mischief. Speling iz a great training for the memory. Ther ar hundreds ov words that you just hav to lern bodily. A man that English speling can lern almost anithing. If words wer spelt regularly, you'd lose just so much training.

G. It just mixes me al up, sir, and I'd just as liev lose that. But cudn't we study somthing else? Weren't you saying the other day that the schools wer crowded with studies, and wer doing poor work?

Mr. T. It is easy to talk ov how things wud be if they wern't what they ar. It's hard work to

get up and down mountains, but the Lord has put plenty ov them in the world.

G. Did the Lord hav anithing to do with English speling, Pa?

Mr. T. Wel, not directly, I suppose. But this is foolish talk. If our speling shud be made regular, just think how queer and horrid it wud look. I z, is; t-u-n-g, tongue, and al the rest ov it!

G. It wud be easy to remember, anyhow. And, Pa, litl Jim Smith lookt awful queer when they took him out ov those long clothes he used to go stumbling around in, and put him in pants. But now it seems ever so much beter.

Mr. T. Wel, George, this talk is perfectly useless. Whatever is, is; and English speling is, and it is going to stay. I had to work hard to lern it, and my son wil too.

G. I hope my son wil hav it easier, so I do.

Mr. T. .
never.}

REMARK.—Dropping the *o* and *l* from *could*, *would* and *should* is not in acordance with the five rules, but it saves 40% to do it, and gives these words a fonetic form. So with *f* in *of*; we change it to *v*.

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SEPTEMBER.

1879.

THE PRESENT STATE OF THE SPELLING REFORM IN AMERICA.

BY PROFESSOR FRANCIS A. MARCH, LL. D.,
President of the Spelling Reform Association.

READ BEFORE THE SPELLING REFORM DEPARTMENT OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING IN PHILADELPHIA, JULY 29, 1879.

The movement for the reform of English spelling is a product of the spirit of the age, a *tru birth of time*, as Bacon likes to call his philosophy. The great currents of thought and action set towards reform. We are for reforming everything that can help us in the discovery of truth and the improvement of man's estate.

Given a spoken language, the easy communication of it by writing and printing is a problem in labor-saving machinery. But there is so much that is complex and superfluous in our present spelling that hundreds of millions of dollars are wasted by it in our printing offices every year.

Our teachers see that two or three years of the school-life of every child are worse than wasted in trying to learn to spell.

Our statesmen see that we have 5,500,000 illiterates in the United States and that one of the most powerful causes of illiteracy is the badness of our spelling.

Our scholars find their studies of language

embarast at every turn by our whimsical and unmanagabl alfabet. Etymological and scientific truth in regard to the history and laws of the English language ar burid under piles of rubish mountain-high.

Out of all these causes of reform sprang our Speling Reform Asociation. It was organized in our centenial year, 1876, at an International Convention for the Amendment of English Orthografy, held in Philadelphia.

The anual meeting in 1877 was held at Baltimore, in conection with the meeting of the American Philological Asociation. This great body of scholars had alredy exprest its interest in the reform and apointed a comitee to report upon it. The Speling Reform Asociation adopted ther report. It gave in substance the alfabet of the future and several sugestions about the best way to reach it.

The anual meeting in 1878 was held in the White Mountains, in conection with the American Institute of Instruction, which gave a favorabl hearing to the advocates of the reform.

And now we finish our third year by this meeting as a Department of the National Educational Asociation. What hav we done? How do we find ourselves?

The first thing we undertook to do was to excite and concentrate dissatisfaction with the old speling. In this ther has been more done than we hopt. We hav the concurring voices of the great authoritis in filology, in education and statesmanship, clear and strong, both in America and England.

Prof. Max Müller, of the University of Oxford, the hed of all things among the filologists of England, says:

The question, then, that wil hav to be anserd sooner or later is this: "Can this un-systematic system of speling English be alowd to go on forever?" Is every English child, as compared with other children, to be mulcted in two or three years of his life *in order to lern it?* Ar the lower clases to *go thru scool* without lerning to read and *rite ther own language* inteligently? And *is the cuntry to pay milions every year for*

this utter failure of national education? I do not believe or think that such a state of things will be allowed to go on forever, particularly as a remedy is at hand. I consider that the sooner it is taken in hand the better. There is a motive power behind these phonetic reformers which Archbishop Trench has hardly taken into account. I mean the misery endured by millions of children at schools, who might learn in one year, and with real advantage to themselves, what they now require four or five years to learn, and seldom succeed in learning, after all.

Prof. Whitney says:

We are, then, clearly of opinion that a phonetic orthography is, of itself, in all respects desirable, and that there is no good reason against introducing it, save the inconvenience of so great a change. Every theoretical and practical consideration makes in its favor.

And when Prof. Whitney and Prof. Max Müller agree, who shall say them nay?

Dr. Morris, lecturer on English in King's College, London, who ranks among the first English scholars, says:

The numerous inconsistencies in our use of the letters of the alphabet make our orthography a lying spirit to deceive those who use it; and we seem willing to listen to its voice. One object of education is to train the observing powers of a child, and to teach it to reason from the facts that come within the range of its experience. Our alphabet, with all its glorious uncertainties, only tends to mislead and deceive the observing powers. From the written symbol the child ought to be able to deduce the proper sound; but when one symbol represents three or four sounds, and the same sound is represented by from five to twelve, or even more, different symbols, how is a child to get any help toward the sound from observing the symbol? It is said that only fifty words in English are written as they are pronounced (are pronounced in accordance with the names of their letters), so that the eye is the organ used (as in Chinese) in learning to read.

Bishop Thirlwall, the illustrious author of the "History of Greece," says:

I look upon the established system of spelling (if an accidental custom may be so called) as a mass of anomalies the growth of ignorance and change, equally repugnant to good taste and common sense. But I am aware that the public cling to these anomalies with a tenacity proportioned to their absurdity, and are jealous of all encroachment on ground consecrated by prescription to the free play of blind caprice.

Lord Lytton says:

A more lying, roundabout, puzzle-headed delusion than that by which we confuse the clear instincts of truth in our accursed system of spelling was never concocted by the father of falsehood. How can a system of education flourish that begins by so monstrous a falsehood, which the sense of hearing suffices to contradict?

Prof. Hadley says:

It cannot be denied that the English language is shockingly spelled.

Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull says:

The popular mind seems awake as never before to appreciation of the difficulties, eccentricities, and absurdities of the present standard-English orthography.

For statesmen, there are Charles Sumner, John Stuart Mill, W. E. Gladstone, and the like. Sumner says:

The English language has an immense future. But there must be harmony between the written and the spoken word. In helping this reform you are a benefactor. It is an improvement of practical value and much needed.

John Stuart Mill says:

There is no doubt that a simplification of English orthography would facilitate considerably the task of learning to read. A language which, like the Spanish of the present time, has reduced its spelling to a perfectly uniform system has a great advantage over others.

W. E. Gladstone says:

There is much that might be done with

advantage in the reform of spelling as to the English language; but the main thing is that whatever may be proposed shud be proposed with the weight of great authority to back it. It is not in my power to offer to give any time, under present circumstances, to the undertaking which I recommend and in which I should gladly have found myself able to join.

Sir C. E. Trevelyan, K. C. B., says:

The English system of spelling (I protest against its being called *orthography*) is a labyrinth, a chaos, an absurdity, a disgrace to our age and nation.

From our educators we may select Hon. Wm. T. Harris, LL. D. He says:

The irregularities of English spelling are, as is well known, the cause of a wide departure on the part of our elementary education from that of other countries where English is not spoken. In Germany and Italy the child can correctly spell any word he hears, or pronounce any word he sees after he becomes familiar with the powers of the letters of his alphabet. Hence, the foreigner spends a very small portion of time in learning his own language, while if he would learn to spell our English language correctly he must give years of study to it. And, what is worst of all, this study is only an exercise of the memory, and not a cultivation of the reason or of the power to think. There are few general principles or suggestive analogies to lighten the burden. The American child must spend a large portion of his school-days learning, one by one, the peculiar combinations of the right words of his language.

Dr. Temple, Bishop of Exeter, formerly headmaster of Rugby School says:

I take great interest in the spelling reform that is proposed.

But we can speak of the philologists and educators in masses.

In England.—In 1876, the National Union of Elementary Teachers, representing some 10,000 teachers in England and Wales, passed, almost unanimously, a resolution in favor of a royal commission to inquire into the subject

of English spelling, with a view of reforming and simplifying it. The school board for London took up the matter and issued a circular asking others to unite in an address to the Education Department in favor of it. The Liverpool and Bradford Boards had acted before, and more than a hundred other Boards, returned favorable replies. On Tuesday, May 29, 1877, a Conference was held in London, at which the Rev. A. H. Sayce, professor of philology, Oxford, presided, and in which the president of the Philological Society, H. Sweet, Esq., and Vice President J. H. Murray, LL. D., and ex-presidents took part, as well as numerous dignitaries of Church and State, leading school-masters, and eminent reformers, including Mr. I. Pitman and Mr. Ellis. They spent a day and evening in harmonious discussion and in listening to short addresses, and adopted vigorous resolutions, which they appointed a committee to present to the Department of Education. The Convention was a great success, and called forth serious articles in *The London Times*, followed of course, when not preceded, by articles in the whole periodical press of Great Britain. The deputations waited on the Lord-president of the council, January 18, 1878. Addresses were made by Mr. Gladstone, Dr. R. Morris, Dr. Angus, Mr. Rathbone, M. P., Mr. Richards, M. P., and Mr. A. J. Ellis, F. R. S. The Lord-president, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, in his reply, spoke very emphatically of the importance of the subject. He said:

It is of such vast importance and so large extent that it would not be dealt with in any satisfactory way other than by the Crown's being advised to issue a commission to inquire into the matter.

The American Philological Association is the largest and most influential body of philologists in America. Among its members are representatives of more than one hundred educational institutions, including 12 theological seminaries, 30 universities and almost every college of any standing in the United States. The addresses of its presidents

in favor of this reform, and the report of its committee on the basis of which the reform movement has been organized, have been received without opposition. Last year some of its leading members started a Memorial to Congress, praying for the appointment of a Commission on Spelling Reform.

MEMORIAL.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:

This Memorial of the undersigned, members of the American Philological Association and others, respectfully represents that it is currently stated by leading educators that the irregular spelling of the English language causes a loss of two years of the school time of each child and is the main cause of the alarming illiteracy of our people; that it involves an expense of hundreds of millions of dollars annually for teachers and for writing and printing superfluous letters; and that it is an obstacle in many other ways to the progress of education among those speaking the English language and to the spread of the language among other nations.

It further represents that leading educators, among whom are many teachers of much practical experience, and associations of learned scholars, declare it possible to reform our spelling and have proposed schemes of reform.

The prayer of your memorialists, therefore, is that your honorable body may see fit to appoint a commission to examine and report how far such a reform is desirable, and what amendments in orthography, if any, may be wisely introduced into the public documents and the schools of the District of Columbia and accepted in examinations for the civil service, and whether it is expedient to move the Government of Great Britain to unite in constituting a joint committee to consider such amendments.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray, etc.

It was thought that such a memorial was a good means of bringing out and concen-

trating opinion. Ther is hardly any first step more easy to take than to sign it.

It was heded by the members of the Comitee on Speling Reform, most of them having been presidents of the Asociation.

The folowing ar the Comitee on Speling Reform :

F. A. March, Chairman. Lafayette College.

W. D. Whitnev, Yale College.

J. Hammond Trumbull, Yale College.

F. J. Child, Harvard College.

S. S. Haldeman, University of Pennsylvania.

The folowing ar ex-Presidents of the American Filogical Asociation :

Howard Crosby, President of the University of New York.

W. W. Goodwin, Harvard College.

A. Harkness, Brown University.

It is also signd by filologists and profesors in the folowing universitis and coleges :

Bowdoin College, Maine.

Dartmouth College, N. H.

Amherst College, Mass.

Andover Theological Seminary, Mass.

Harvard College, Mass.

Phillips Academy, Mass.

Williams College, Mass.

Brown University, R. I.

University Grammar School, R. I.

Trinity College, Conn.

Yale College, Conn.

Hopkins Gramnar School, Conn.

Cornell University, N. Y.

Rochester Theological Seminary, N. Y.

University of New York, N. Y.

Princeton College, N. J.

Franklin and Marshall College, Pa.

Lafayette College, Pa.

Univerlty of Pennsylvania, Pa.

Haverford College, Pa.

Washington and Jefferson, Pa.

John Hopkins' University, Md.

St. John's College, Md.

State University, Ohio.

Wesleyan University, Ohio.

Wooster University, Ohio.

Illinois Industrial University, Illinois.

Northwestern University, Illinois.
Shurtleff College, Illinois.
Adrian College, Mich.
Michigan University, Mich.
Iowa College, Iowa.
Cornell College, Iowa.
Lawrence University, Wiss.
Central College, Mo.
Baptist Theological Seminary, Ky.
Logan Female Institute, Ky.
Vanderbilt University, Tenn.
East Tennessee University, Tenn.
University of Virginia, Va.
University of Alabama, Ala.
University of Mississippi, Miss.
State Agricultural College, Oregon.
Agricultural and Mechanical College,
Texas.

The U. S. Naval Observatory, Washington,
etc., etc. About fifty leading colleges.

These colleges, it should be noted, are those
interested in the Philological Association.
The Memorial has not been sent out to
colleges in general.

In many colleges the professors interested
themselves to obtain other signatures, and
the names of the most active and efficient
presidents of colleges—like Dr. Crosby, of
New York. Chamberlain, of Bowdoin,
Chadbourne, of Williams—appear on the
roll.

The University of Mississippi appointed a
committee to consider the propriety of uniting
in the Memorial, the chairman of which
was Prof J. D. Johnson, LL. D., well-known,
as one of the foremost Anglo-Saxon scholars
in the South. They made an able report in
favor of action, which has been printed.
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Wesleyan University, Ohio.

Wooster University, Ohio.

Illinois Industrial University, Illinois.

Northwestern University, Illinois.
 Shurtleff College, Illinois.
 Adrian College, Mich.
 Michigan University, Mich.
 Iowa College, Iowa.
 Cornell College, Iowa.
 Lawrence University, Wiss.
 Central College, Mo.
 Baptist Theological Seminary, Ky.
 Logan Female Institute, Ky.
 Vanderbilt University, Tenn.
 East Tennessee University, Tenn.
 University of Virginia, Va.
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The Memorial was brought before the American Institute of Instruction, which

resolved to unite in it. 10,000 teachers were said to be at the meeting. The Department of Public Instruction of the city of Chicago took up the matter, and its Board of Education unanimously adopted a resolution:

That the Secretary of the Board correspond with the principal school boards and educational associations of the country, with a view to co-operation in the reform of English spelling.

A circular letter was accordingly issued, asking such Boards to unite in the Memorial to Congress, and it is receiving many favorable responses.

During the Christmas holidays a large part of the teachers and school officers, and, indeed, of all persons interested in education in this country, had their attention turned to the spelling reform. The State Teachers' Associations met in many states, and in those in which they did not, there were very general meetings of county institutes or other smaller associations. At these meetings this year almost everywhere papers were read and discussions had on this reform. These were reported in educational and other papers, and in many places followed by other articles on the subject.

The Massachusetts Teachers' Association met at Worcester, December 26. J. A. Allen read a paper on "Spelling Reform," which provoked a lively discussion, and led to the appointment of a committee to co-operate with the American Philological Association in memorializing Congress for the establishment of a commission to investigate the orthography of the English language, and report upon reforms in it. The report was adopted and Messrs. D. B. Hagar, Salem; N. T. Allen, Newton; B. F. Twiss, Boston; A. P. Stone, Springfield; A. G. Boyden, Bridgewater, were appointed.

The Illinois State Teachers' Association met at Springfield, Dec. 26. Dr. Willard, of the Chicago High School, read a paper on "*How to Systematize English Orthography*," which was printed in several papers. A.

discussion, followed and a committee on spelling reform was appointed, to report next year.

The Iowa State Teachers' Association past the following:

Resolved, That we heartily approve the action of the Philological Association in asking of Congress a commission to examine into the desirability of reform in English spelling.

The Michigan State Teachers' Association had the spelling reform brought before them by E. O. Vaile, editor of the *Educational Weekly*, Chicago.

In Indiana and Wisconsin it was also up. It is said in a report to the Legislature of Wisconsin on the subject that "nearly 400 residents of Wisconsin, officers and professors in our colleges and teachers in our public schools have united in a memorial to Congress asking the appointment of a national committee."

As a specimen of the action of the county institutes, we give the following:

Resolved, That we (the teachers of the Schuylkill County Institute, Pa.) endorse the last annual appeal of the American Philological Association to teachers, editors, and the intelligent public to make a beginning in the reform of dropping the useless *e* in the words *have, give and live*.

The Northampton County Institute, Pa., past in substance the resolution recommended in the Chicago circular in favor of requesting our legislatures, state and national, to appoint commissions to investigate and report what can be done to simplify our spelling.

Resolutions in favor of reform have been further past, and committees appointed upon it by the State Teachers' Associations of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, Missouri and Virginia.

In many cases, state legislation has been invoked, as well as national. State commissions have, in fact, been authorized by the legislatures of Connecticut, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania.

The Text-book Commission of the State of Wisconsin made a report on spelling reform January 8, 1879. It is a comprehensive and

impresiv argument in favor of the reform and of State action to promote it. It proposes that the superintendent of public instruction be authorized to suply the scools of the State with a dictionary embodying an amended orthografty in conection with the present aproved orthografty. The report was prepared by Senator George H. Paul, of Milwaukee, and is everywher recognized as an abl and important document.

Senator W. W. Fowler, Chairman of the Connecticut Legislativ Comision, which consists further of Profs. Whitney and Trumbull of Yale, Hart of Trinity, and Van Benschoten of Wesleyan University, with Hon. B. G. Northrop, Secretary of Education, is preparing a volume on the subject for publication in advanc of the next sesion of the legislature.

The Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Georgia, who is warmly interested in the reform, has taken charge of the Memorial to Congress, and it will probably be herd from at the next sesion.

The Pres has not neglected the subject. The Speling Reform Asociation issues a *Bulletin*; the educational jurnals hav been specially interested—speling reform departments ar to be found in the *New England Journal of Education* and in the *Educational Weekly* of Chicago, and communications and other articles hav been frequent in many jurnals—in the *New York Times*, for exampl, the *Chicago Tribune* and the *St. Louis Republican*. More elaborate articles hav been publisht in the magazines—as in *The Galaxy*, *The Atlantic*, *The Athenæum*, *The Academy*, and in the Transactions of the Filological Asociation, the American Institute of Instruction, and in books like Max Mueller's "Chips from a German Workshop," Whitney's "Oriental and Linguistic Studies," Hadley's "Philological and Critical Essays," and Ellis's works. Two important new books hav been holy devoted to this subject—one by Mr. Sweet, former President of the Filological Society of London; one by Mr. J. H. Gladstone. The Speling Reform

Bulletin for April, 1878, contains a bibliography of this literature, and it certainly makes a respectable show.

Prof. Edward North, of Hamilton College, made a learned and forcible plea for the reform before a convention of school-commissioners and superintendents at Utica, N. Y., which was printed in the *Utica Morning Herald* and other papers as far West as Chicago.

Prof. L. H. Carpenter, of the University of Wisconsin, the well-known Anglo-Saxon scholar and author, read an able paper in favor of reform before the 'State Teachers' Association at Geneva. It is printed as a pamphlet.

A lively discussion has been going on in the *Chicago Tribune*, which has brought out a number of schemes of reform, and the usual objections to all of them. There is a great deal of work to be done yet, and the Chicago reformers seem to be ready for it.

Mr. T. R. Vickroy, our enthusiastic and indefatigable director for the Southwest, has completed his "Reading Book," and it has been published by Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., Cincinnati. It is printed in the alphabet and spelling of the Association and will be a great help to the Reform.

Steiger's "Year-Book of Education" for 1878, gives a full account of the spelling reform for the year in the article "Orthography." Appleton's "Year-Book" also promises a similar article.

In all this copious expression of interest I do not know of a single scholar or eminent educator of the new generation who has come out in favor of the old spelling. Our illustrious and venerable chief, the Hon. George P. Marsh, the American Minister to Italy, says that in his early life he, like most literary men of that time, was prejudiced against this reform; but the weight of the arguments in its favor has convinced him of its necessity. And a similar declaration is made by Dr. Morris, and by others of our elders. Sometimes, if it must be confessed, these venerable authorities, who play their part as reformers with brave faces to the public, wear

as lugubrious look in private and hope the reform may not come in their time. But even Richard Grant White, who is as much of an irreconcilable as anybody, claims to be a reformer, and recognizes amended spelling as having become a fashion. How far this fashion has gone in England may be gathered from the following passage in Mrs. Lewes' latest book, "*Theophrastus Such*":

I have a sort of valet and factotum, an excellent, respectable servant whose spelling is so unvitiated by non-phonetic absurdities that he writes *night* as *nūt*. One day, looking over his accounts, I said to him, jokingly: "You are in the latest fashion with your spelling, Pummel. Most people spell 'night' with a *gh* between the *i* and *t*; but the greatest scholars now spell as you do." "So I suppose, sir," said Pummel, "I've seen it with a *gh*; but I've noways given into that myself." You would never catch Pummel in an interjection of surprise.

So much for our first object; dissatisfaction with the old spelling and general interest in the reform. What have we done on the positive side? What do we propose for the new spelling?

In the first place we have put forth an ideal alphabet, and the principles which control orthography. This was left to the philologists. Most of the committee were well-known masters of the general subject—Whitney, Haldeman, Trumbull, Child; but none of them had any scheme of his own. They invited schemes, and they received them by the bareful. What they do not do now of schemes is not worth noting. The alphabet is a Roman alphabet, very much on the same plane as reformed German and Spanish. It fixes the old letters in their Roman and Anglo-Saxon powers as nearly as may be; accepts the digraph consonants in *h*, (*th*, *ch*, *sh*, etc.) and declares it necessary to have three new letters for elementary vowels which were unknown to the early Romans—those in *fat*, *not*, *but*. For these it suggests modifications of *a*, *o* and *u*. A diacritical mark is added, when

great accuracy is needed, to denote a long vowel sound.

This alphabet was set forth not with any hope of its immediate adoption, but as a guide in making minor changes. *Could* is a standing example of unpardonable spelling. The *l* is sheer blunder; the *ou* has a wrong sound. Shall we write *cud*, *cood*, *kud*, *kood*, *cui*, or what? Before we can tell we must fix our ideal English alphabet.

Having this settled, it has been the policy of the Association to encourage all sorts of changes which tend toward it. Only three new types, and these well-known forms, are required for the ultimate alphabet. But publishers and teachers assure us that Dr. Leigh's modified types can be used in many publications where it is not possible at present to change the spelling. We have, accordingly, recommended and used in our own publications a number of new types like those of Dr. Leigh—*e*, *g*., *ç* (cedilla), *s* (reversed *s*), etc.

On the other hand, many changes of spelling are plainly possible without the use of any new types. The dropping of silent letters affords the most obvious examples.

We have, accordingly, recommended and adopted various special rules for spelling without new types. A set of five of these has come to be widely known under the name of the "Few New Rules." They are as follows:

(1.) Omit *a* from the digraph *ea* when pronounced as *e* short, as in *head*, *health*, etc. (2.) Omit silent final *e* after a short vowel, as in *have*, *give*, etc. (3.) Write *f* for *ph* in such words as *alphabet*, *phantom*, etc. (4.) When a word ends with a double letter, omit the last, as in *shall*, *cliff*, *egg*, etc. (5.) Change *ed* final to *t* where it has the sound of *t*, as in *last*, *impress*, etc.

At the meeting of the American Philological Association, in 1878, the Committee on the Reform of English Spelling—Prof. F. A. March, chairman; Profs. W. D. Whitney and J. H. Trumbull, of Yale College; Prof. F. J. Child, of Harvard College; Prof. S. S.

Haldeman, of the University of Pennsylvania—reported as follows:

In acordanc with the plan of preparing a list of words for which an amended speling may be adopted concurent with that now in use, as suggested by President J. Hammond Trumbull, at the session of 1875, and favorably reported upon by the comitee of that sesion, the comitee now present the folowing words as the begining of such list, and recomend them for imediate use: *Ar. catalog, definit, gard' giv, hav, infinit, liv, thru, wisht.*

The Speling Reform Asociation has in the same way taken up and specially recommended *hav, giv* and *liv*

We had beter not boast of our suces ingeting any of these changes into actual use. Nothing has been printed in our alfabet but a few ilustrativ specimens. It stil remains the alfabet of the future. Printing with more or les of Dr. Leigh's type has been more comun. The Filological Asociation hav had two fonts of these types cut to mach those used in the "Proceedings" and in the "Transactions," and papers will be printed in both in any speling which authors of each may adopt in harmony with the reports. The new volume contains such papers. In the month of August, 1877, at Chicago, Ill., the Adams, Blackmer & Lyon Publishing Company, O. C. Blackmer, President, began to introduce the alfabet of the Speling Reform Asociation into their widely circulated periodical, *The Little Folks*. The leters wer introduct gradually in sucesiv months. It now announces that it contains all the new leters, and claims that they embaras no one, but asist in pronunciation.

It has alredy been mentiond that Mr. Vickroy, our director for the Southwest, has prepared a "Reading book" for us. He has also lately issued the first number of a naper, caled the *Fonetic Teacher*, printed with the same type. The Missouri State Teachers' Asociation has directed the volume of its "Proceedings" this year to be printed in the same alfabet. Articles hav apeard in it in the *New England Jurnal* of

Education and specimens in many newspapers and periodicals. Dr. Leigh's school-books are well-known and widely used. The influence in favor of new types exerted by the publications of Pitman, Parkhurst, and Longley may also be mentioned. *Pitman's Journal* is a weekly, with a circulation of some 11,000 copies. A large number of sporadic issues in types invented by enterprising Americans diversify the field of view.

Printing in pure fonetic spelling, or with new types, seems as yet to be missionary work. It costs a good deal of money, and the returns are mainly sentimental. It is however a prime necessity in order to keep our goal before us, and direct all minor changes; as well as for a metric alphabet.

The "few rules" and the "eleven words" give better promise. A very large number of articles have appeared with them in the newspapers. They have met with special favor among printers, and have been used more or less in almost all the organs of the craft. *The Electrotypist*, of Chicago, has adopted the eleven words, and it says in its last issue:

This movement, to which *The Electrotypist* has given adhesion, and which it is endeavoring to promote is gaining strength daily. Our contemporaries of *The Type Founder* have published a carefully written article upon the subject, which, by the way, has been issued in pamphlet form, as one of the *Bulletins* of the Spelling Reform Association; *The Electrotypist Journal* warmly advocates the reform, and will hereafter conform to the eleven amended spellings recommended by the American Philological Association; *The Chicago Specimen* publishes the emendations, and says that they ought to be adopted at once; *The American Newspaper Reporter* favors the reform and has published several articles advocating it; *The Quadrant*, Pittsburgh, favors the change and may ultimately adopt it; and few thoughtful printers, so far as we can learn, have not to say against the adoption of the emendations recommended.

A number of organs of various social reforms have adopted some of these words.

The *Library Journal* is doing a good work in the same way. And we have reason to believe that many editors and publishers of the popular general newspapers are plotting an insurrection which may prove to be a revolution. On this subject we shall have a paper at this session from one of the leading editors Mr. North, of the *Utica Herald*.

Scientific specialists are helping, by amending technical terms.

C. A. Cutter, the librarian of the Boston Athenæum, the eminent author of the "Rules for a Dictionary Catalog" published by the United States, put at the head of the Bibliography in the *Library Journal* this note:

The American Philological Association, the only body in the country which can be said to be of any authority in the matter of language, has published a list of ten [eleven] words in which it recommends an improved spelling. With the greater part of the list, librarians have no special concern; but with regard to "catalog" I feel that we are called upon to decide whether we will slavishly follow the objectionable orthography of the past or will make an effort, at a time when there is every chance of its being successful, to effect some improvement. In this case the responsibility lies upon catalogers. The proper persons to introduce new forms of technical words are those artisans who have most to do with them. I shall, therefore, in the following notes (except when quoting) omit the superfluous French *ue*. I am well aware that the unwonted appearance of the word will be distasteful for a time to many readers, including myself; but the advantages of the shorter form are enough to compensate for the temporary annoyance. To bibliographers, who are accustomed to the German "katalog," the effort to get used to "catalog" should hardly be perceptible.

Since that time he has used this spelling entirely. Many other librarians have adopted it and use it in their articles and correspondence. The editor of *The Journal* finds

that this influenc has spred so fast that he receivs more spelings "catalog" than with the *ue*. The president of the American Library Asociation, having douts of the wisdom of the change, inquiris wer sent to a number of leading librarians, asking their opinion. The ansers wer so encouraging that Mr. Cutter now proposes to adopt "bibliografi." This shows how much a leading specialist may do with a litl efort.

T. B. Sprague, M. A., Vice-President of the Institute of Actuaris, England, has issued a monograf in reformed speling on "Does Vaccination Aford any Protection Agenst Smal-pox?" He says: "I believ that speling reformers shud use their utmost influenc to get a partialy reformed speling adopted in treating ov subjects ov general interest, so that the public may gradually becom familiarized with the idea that a speling reform is posibl." The new dres fits a scientific paper perfectly.

The sientists have further taken up the mater of an ideal or metric alfabet and speling, to be used concurently with the present for scientific purposes mainly. Every English dictionary has to hav such an ideal alfabet to use in its pronunciation. Every filological work has the same necessity. So with scientific works treating of foren cuntris and giving the pronunciation of foren names. As a mater of fact, each of our dictionaris—Webster, Worcester, Chambers, Stormonth, and the like—has a different key alfabet, each wors than the other; and filologists ar about as bad. It wud be a prodigus gain if ther wer an agreement on the alfabet of the future simply for scientific use.

The National Asociation of Great Britain for the Promotion of Social Sience had this mater before them in a paper by Profesor Newman, red to the Congres at Cheltenham, in October, 1878. It was referd to the Education Department, which raised a special comitee upon it, who hav givn it much atention, and finally past unanimously a resolution in favor of an alternativ method of speling. They say:

Such an alternativ method wud be at once usefūl: 1st. For indicating the pronunciation of any word or name that may not be familiar to ordinary readers. 2d. For teaching the proper pronunciation of words in schools, and thus curing vulgarisms. 3d. For representing diferent dialects of individua. pecularitis. 4th. For showing the pronunciation of foren languages. This alternativ method, if generally aprovd, wud gradually becom a concurent method, and perhaps eventually wud displace the present iregular speling (just as the Arabic numerals hav generally displact the Roman numerals.) In the meantime it wud serv to indicate the direction in which any partial reforms of the curent speling shud be made.

They ar in dout about a suitabl authority to initiate action. It will be remem-berd that our memorials to Congres contemplate a joint comision from the govern-ment's of the English-speaking nations, to decide this mater.

Ther ar two important publications now at hand which cal for such a decision—the Great Historical Dictionary of the English Filological Society and the amended version of the English Bible. The Dictionary has now been more than twenty years in making. The material acumulated for it is spoken of by ton's weit. The University of Oxford hav now undertaken to print it, and the first volume wil apear in 1882.

It wil be one of the great books of the world; a standard work for generations. Dr. Murray, president of the Filological Society, who is its editor, wishes to put the key pronunciation in an agreed form of speling. It is worth agreeing for. If it is agreed upon and establisht in the Dictionary, we may wel hope to see an edition of the new translation of the Bible speedily issued in it. And then we may fairly say *that the reform stands on an establisht system and method, like the metric system of weits and mesures, and we shal hav nothing further to do but push it into use.*

Meantime, it would seem that authors

and publishers might find the Philological Association a sufficient authority for the immediate use of such reformed spelling as they think to be reasonable and economical. Authors and editors are authority to the masses.

The air is full of hope.

We no, to be sure, that the reform can not be accomplished in a day. No generation reared in the old spelling can be expected to adopt the new one for common literary use. Their prejudices may be overcome and their reason convinced so far that they will agree that their children shall be taught the better way. A generation, probably two or three generations, must grow up familiar with the new spelling before it can become universal. It is sometimes said in public discussions that the change may come round for our great grandchildren, in 1976, and this is said sarcastically, as though it were a reason for opposing immediate action. But that is poor talk for a scholar or a philanthropist.

If this reform is to take a century, it is high time it were begun.

The true scholar and worker of to-day rejoices with all his might in the spirit of that noble eulogium which Lord Bacon pronounces on Henry VII.:

His laws, whose marks them well, were deep and not vulgar, not made on the spur of a particular occasion for the present, but out of providence for the future; that he might make the estate of his people more and more happy, after the manner of legislators in the ancient and heroic times.

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“ No dubld consonants. No silent e’s.”
—*Easton Free Press.*



BULETIN

OV DHI

SPELING REFORM ASOSHIASHUN.

No. 15. REPRINTED FROM THE FONETIC TECHER. 1881.

[Thè articlz constitiūting this Buletin wūr prepārd bai thè editor ov thè FONETIC TECHER at thè instans ov Prof. F. A. MARCH, LL.D., thè Prezident ov thè Speling Refōrm Asoshiashun and Chārman ov thè Comiti en Nlū Spelingz, tu hūm tha wūr submitted fēr revizhun befōr publicashun. Az fonetic spelling iz bast en pronunshiashun, it iz just az impērtant tu fix thè standard pronunshiashun az it iz tu detūrmin thè pauerz ov leterz. Thè problem wè hēr straiiv tu selv iz a mōst difficult wun, but az thār must bè sum cemun standard bai hwich tu test aur wūrck, and thè dicshuneriz ar acnolejd ēsheriti upen this subject, wè must cōnfērm tu them in ēl materz upen hwich tha agrè, and hwen tha disagrè, bas a cōnclūzhun upen jeneral prinsiplz. In casez ov daut thè prezumpshun iz in favor ov thè egzisting spelling, and hens jenerali thè vauelz in unacsented silablz reman unchanjd.]

ORTHOGRAFI, NØT ORTHOEPI.

Thār iz a curent mistak in thè popyular maind in regārd tu spelling refōrm. Meni sēm tu thipk that tu amend thè spelling iz tu chanj thè langwaj. Langwaj iz hwet iz spōkn, and raiting and printing ār ōnli devaisez fēr ecspresing it.

Thè Inglish langwaj iz spōkn bai a grat number ov pēp in bōth hemisfērz, sum ov hūm, nō daut, spēk it a litl dīf entil frēm utherz; and yet thār iz a standard pronunshie

recognaizd bai bōfh Inglish and American scolarz. It iz this standard that wè am tu felo, and enlthing tu thè contrari fcaund in this paper shud bè regārded az a misprint.

But hwail wè am tu amend spelling, wè must nesecerili cōnfōrm it tu this ērthoeple standard, and hens it becumz impōrtant tu detūrmin hwet this standard iz. Wè shal tak up sum ev thè mūted points.

I. It iz cōmunli agrēd that thār ār 24 cōnsonants nēding rēprezentashun in Inglish, yet sum wud mak a sepatet cōnsonant ev wh. Webster sez: "Thè trū saund ev thèz leterz iz in thè revūrs ērder, viz.: hw." Thus, what iz h-w-e-t, thè h bēing blōn. Worcester agrēz with Webster, and our practis iz sayeshund bai bōfh. Our Inglish cuzinz sēm tu saund it diferentli.

II. Wè giv a brēf saund ev thè a in such wūrdz az "almz, calf, father, arm," tu thè a in menosilabic wūrdz laik "ask gasp, chant," thè articl a, and tu fainal unacsented a az in America, Ciūba, Indiana. Thèz wūrdz ār net so pronaunst in sum secshunz ev thè Ūnaited Stats; but Webster and Worcester agrē, and wè must felo them and cōnfōrm tu thè best American yūzaj hwich iz ēlso thè pronunshieshun ev thè best ejucated clasez in Ingland. In unacsented silablz befōr r not felod bai a vauel, wè ēlso chanj a tu a.

III. Yūzaj iz sumhwet dividided with regārd tu thè saund givn tu a ēr e in such wūrdz az "care, air, there, their." Cultivated spēkerz uter it az thè long corelat ev shōrt a. Thus, if thè saund givn tu a in "Harry" iz prolengd, it wīl *giv thè saund givn tu ai* in "hairry." Wè intend this sāund

hwārever wè yūz ā. Webster and Worçester agrè in considering it a diferent sound from a in potato, but tha dū net agrè in thār analisis ev it.

IV. Thār iz əlso sum diferens in thè practis ev spèkerz in thè pronunshiashun ev e and i in wūrdz laik "girl, term," etc. But cultivated spèkerz jenerali and thè unejucated yunivṛsali tūrn thè e ēr i intu thè ū in ūrn. Worçester sez: "Thār iz litl ēr nō diferens in thè saundz ev e, i, u, and y, az in her, fir, fur myrrh." Thè latest and best dicshneri ēsheriti in Ingland, P. H. Phelp, ev thè Ūnivṛsiti ev Cambrij, hū prepārd thè pronunshiashun in Stōrmenth's Dicshneri, givz thè sam saund tu ēl thèz combinaszun. Sō dū thè ētheritiz in saientific fonoloji, Ellis and Swēet. But Webster sez: "In thè mōst aprūvd stall ev pronunshiashun, thè ōrganz ār plast in a pozishun intermēdiet betwēn that recwizit fōr saunding ū and e. * * Thè element iz radicali distijct from bōth ū and e, bëing les gutural than thè fērmer and les palatal than thè later, from hwīch it wez dautlesli orijinali deraivd." It wud mak les chanj tu retān thè e in such wūrdz, but az wè mēn tu felo thè dicshneriz in pronunshiashun, wè wa thè ēsheritiz and faind that thè preponderans iz with Worçester and comun yūzej. Wè thārfor spel were, her—wūr, hūr.

V. Thè end and am ev spelling refōrm iz tu sō simplifm Ingllish ērthegrafi az tu eliminat ēl yūsles leterz. Ōrthoepl, ev cōrs, haz nō yūs fōr sailent leterz. But dubl leterz cōz mōr difficulti than sailent leterz. Tēcherz, prūf-rēderz, and utherz hū hav tu dēl with ērthegrafi in a pṛactical wa, nṛ

hou frēwentli mistaks ār mad in regūrd tu thē dubling ev cōnsonants, sō that wun ev thē mōst impērtant rūlz ev thē niū speling iz: Never dubl a leter. Ōrthoepe duz net recwair thē dubld leter. Webster sez: "In mēni wūrdz a cōnsonant iz dubld betwēn tū vauelz; yet, in sūch casez, nō mōr than wun articyulaashun iz ever yūzd in spēking." Worcester sez: "It beter acērdz with thē analoji ev thē laggwaj net tu dubl thē l in sūch wūrdz az traveling." Nēr duz etimeloji recwair thē dubld cōnsonant. Az pūrtinent tu this ārgyument, wē cwōt thē feloing from thē Janyuāri number ev thē Princeton Revīū:

"Tu fēlo up dubl cōnsonants, d veri lūrj pūrt ev the apār-ent cōmpaundz ev Latin prēficsez sujest a mistak. Thē wūrdz ār net rīali Latin cōmpaundz, but French. Mēni with ad-, fēr egzampl, wūr mad in French with thē French a, and in French and ūrli Igglish ār sō spelt. Thē dubl cōnsonant iz a modern insūrshun, hwīch fōlsifaiz thē sāund and thē histori tu giv thē remōt scūl-Latin. Sūch ār: accompany, ōld French acompaignier, cōmpaunded ev a and compaignier tu hwīch thār iz nō scūl-Latin wūrd cōrēspōnding; ūrli Igglish acoint, Latin cognitus, disgaizd ndu in thē fōrm acquaint; accomplice, accomplish; address, ūrlier adress, French adresser; affirm; affix; affront; agrieve; allegiance; alie, ōld French aller, ally; apease, French a pais; apraise, a preis; arears, asuage; aturneye, attorney; etc. Thēz egzamplz takn from thē begining ev thē alfabet, ma wel mak thē sticler fōr *historical* speling luk twūis at a dubl cōnsonant hwārever hē sez *it.*"

VI. Thè consonants j, ch, zh and sh hav bin diferenshiated thrū sūrten activ fonetic lēz. Thè chanjing ev vauelz intū consonants, and thè compensating fēr thè les ev vauelz ār prosesez familyar tū thè clasical scolar. Hithertū, Ingllish haz sūmd lēles, simpli becēs ev its kakografic fōrm. With thè refōrm ev thè spelīng, thè subtiler lēz ev aur tung ār bëīng unfōldeḁ. Bai sēīng hwet iz centinyuali taking plas in a līrj clas ev wūrdz, wē ma sē bai hwet preses uther wūrdz hav bin chanjd. Thè ōnli wun ev thè abuv saundz fēr hwīch Ingllish haz adopteḁ a sain, is j, hwīch haz bin diferenshiated frēm i wīthin a senchuri. Thè palatal vauelz e and i, bëīng nūrli consonants, hav blendeḁ with thè dento-palatalz t, d, s and z, and thus j, ch, sh and zh hav arīzn. J haz bin alfabeticali diferenshiated, ch and sh ār wel-nōn daīgrafs in cōmun spelīng, hwail zh haz net yet arīzn tū daīgrafic, much les tū alfabetic reprezentashun. Hens, in thrōīng asaid thè ōld, impūrfect method ev reprezentashun, we shud thurōi diferenshiat thēz consonants. And in dūīng sō wē ār but fōloīng aur standard dicshuneriz.

Thè saund ev ch (chè) araizez efn frēm atēptīng tū cōmbain thè consonants t and y. An intermēdiēt cōmbīnashun iz prodiūst hūz elements ār nūrli t-sh. Webster sez: "Thè tū elements (t and sh) ār sō clōsli blendeḁ in pronunshīashun thaḁ tha hav thēfect ev ōnli a singl saund ēr bēt upen thē ēr." Wē trēt ch az a singl saund, and hens wē tūrn t-y intū ch hwārever tha cum tūgēthēr in unacsenteḁ silablz. Wē cwōt Webster fūrthēr, hū sez: "Hwen thē lēter t cōmē befōr u (=yoo) in an unacsenteḁ silabl, ēr hwen it iz prēseḁd bai s ēr x in an acsenteḁ silabl and iz imēdiētl fōl-

bai ia (=ya) ēr io (=yu) in an unaccented silabl, az i 'Christian, question, admixtion,' sum spēkerz prezŭrv bōf thē t and y, hwail utherz sufer thē t and y tu sigk intū thē bāle and clōsli alaid sound ēv ch in church." But fŭrther er Webster sez: "Thē tŭrminashunz 'dure, ture and sure,' th sumtainz pronaunst with thē regyular saundz ēv thē leter (dyur, tyur, syur), ār mōr cōmunli pronaunst 'joor, choor shoor and zhoor,' az in 'temperature,' (temperachur), "ver dure,' (vŭrjur), 'cynosure,' (sinoshur), and 'exposure,' (ecspōzhur)." Nau, sins yŭzej iz divaided and wē am tu simpli fai ērthegرافي, wē must chŭz that hwāch acōrdz best with ē thē facts, and hens wē yunifōrmli chanj t-y, d-y, s-y and z- in unaccented silablz intū ch, j, sh and zh, and thus tak an impōrtant step fōrwerd. Az Smārt sez: "It iz posibl t prezŭrv thē piŭr sound ēv t and d in such wŭrdz az 'nature, 'verdure'; yet nuθing iz mōr sŭrtēn than that tha ār ne prezŭrvd piŭr bai thē best and mōst cārful spēkerz."

VII. In wŭrdz with 'tia' and 'cia,' befōr t, az in 'associate, expatiate,' sum spēkerz yŭz sh fōr 'ci' and 'ti,' and sa-asōshat, ecspashat; utherz turn 'c' and 't' intū 'sh' and sa-asōshiat, ecspashiat. Thē later, az Webster sez, "iz th best and mōst jeneral yŭzej." But hwen an sh wud begi tū sucesiv silablz, thē fŭrst sh iz chanjd tu s bai meni, a asōsiashun, pronunsiashun; Webster retanz bōfh sh'z, as i asōshlashun. Worçester bārz similar testimoni and sez "Thē majōriti ēv thē ētheritiz ār in favor ēv thē saund ē sh;" and thē Rev. N. H. Whēaton in hiz "Travelz in Iḡ gland," sez: "Ci wēz a litl mōrtifaid in having mai Yagk *erijn* detected bai mai omiting tu giv thē ful saund ēv sh'

thè wörd pronunshiashun.” Thingz hav chanjd sumhwet sins Dr. Whèaton traveld. It iz wūrthi ev nōt that thè latest Inglish ētheritiz, Phelp, Chamberz and urtherz, giv ‘pronunshiashun’ but ‘asōsiashun,’ and thō wè felo Webster and Worçester, bōth ‘pronunsiashun’ and ‘pronunshiashun’ must bè admited tu hav gud ētheriti. This sh is a clūrius studi. 3,000 yèrz agō, 42,000 men wūr slan becēz tha cud net pronouns “Shibboleth” rait. Thè ish iz reprinted in 17 diferent waz in comun spelling, viz:

OLD SPELING.

1. c in oceanic, emaciation
2. s in nauseate, Asiatic
3. t in negotiation
4. ce in ocean
5. ci in social
6. se in nauseous
7. si in tension
8. ti in captious
9. xi = csi in noxious
10. su = syu in mensuration
11. xu = csyu in luxury
12. ch in chaise, machine
13. chs in fuchsia
14. sc in conscientious
15. sch in schorl
16. sci in conscious
17. sh in sheep, she, shall

NIU SPELING.

- osheanic, emashiashun
- nēshiat, Ashiatic
- negōshiashun
- ōshan
- sōshal
- nōshus
- tenshun
- capshus
- necshus
- menshurashun
- lucshuri
- shez, mashin
- fushid
- censhienshus
- sherl
- censhus
- shèp, shè, shal.

VIII. Thār ār sum hū wud pronouns alaik az menosilablz such wūrdz az “hire, higher; lore, lower; more, mower; sore, sower; roar, rower; flour, flower.” Worçester sez: “Thè later wūrd ev tēch ev thēz pārz, and ēlso ‘bower, cower, dower, power, tower,’ and sum urtherz, ār regūrded az disilablz in prōz, but ār ēl comunli pronounst az menosilablz in pōetri.” Wè spel thēm az disilablz, distigwishing betw

hair and haier, lōr and lōer; sins wē regārd poetic *laissez* in pronunshiasun az belonging tu presodi, and hens outsaid ev thē provins ev ōrthografi.

IX. Thār iz divūrsiti ev yūzaj in regārd tu thē prefix ‘dis,’ hwen it cumz befōr a censonant begining an ascended silabl. Thē ōld Igglish dicshneri, Smārt, Wēlker and our Worčester [Wūster] chanj thē s tu z in such casez, hwail Webster, Perry, and thē modern Igglish ōlheritiz, spel it yuni-fōrmlī ‘dis,’ hwenever it iz felt tu bē thē prefix. Wē mait perhaps, prefūr thē ōld wa en graundz ev fonetic prinsipl, but wē ār nau ōrthograferz net ōrthoepists, and wē felo Webster, Phelp, Chamberz and cemun yūzaj, and print “dis-gust, disūrm, disma.

X. R iz a peciūlyar leter, having thē pauer tu modifai thē vauel presēding it. Hwen r endz a menosilabl ēr iz felod bai a censonant in an ascended silabl, an oriġinal ā iz presūrvd, az in fār, fūrm; a iz chanjd tu ā az in hāir, pāir; e, i, u ēr y iz chanjd tu ū, and o iz sumtaimz chanjd to ē, az in hūr, fūr, mūr, ēr. Meni ōrthoepists dū net chanj thē vauel in such silabls, but print ar, far, fēr ār, fār; herd fēr hūrd; or fēr ēr, etç. Tha sa that r iz a sufishent sain ev thē chanj. Wē thiŋk, hauever, thē chanj shud bē mad in print az wel az in saund. It destreiz fonetic spelling tu giv thē sam leter diferent saundz acōrding tu its conection with uther leterz sō az tu mak it nesaseri tu lūrn a bedi ev rūlz befōr wun can rēd.

XI. Thār iz nō dispiūt in regārd tu thē cweliti ev a shōrt *vauel befōr r in an ascended silabl*, hwen r (rr) iz felod bai a *vauel*, az in *carl, meri, sirup, tirani, satirical*, sins a, e, i (j.)

retan thè sound tha hav in pan, pen, pin. O and u-shört beför r felod bai a vauel, ār chanjd tu e ör u, az in bero, furo, huri.

XII. Thè cweliti ev a vauel in an unacsented silabl iz simllar tu that in an acsented silabl. Webster lëvz such vauelz unmärkt, hwail Werçester puts a det under them and sez: "This märk iz emplöid tu indicat a slait stres ov veis in utering thè apropiet saund ev thè vauel, rather than tu nōt eni particyular cweliti ev saund." Hens, a, e, i, o, and u, in unacsented silablz jenerali, hav thè pauer tha hav in pen, pin, naro and put. Tū epozit erorz ār tu bē aveided. Meni inclain tu reprezent ēl unacsented vauelz bai u. Tha wud print tubacu, alfubet, silubul, etç. Tècherz ēv elociūshun, and perhaps scūlmasterz jenerali, inclain tu lengthen thè shört vauelz intu thār nam-saund. Tha wud print silabl, arithmētīc, algēbra, Clitalyan, lejītimat, etç. Wē shal trai tu stēr betwēn thēz ecstrēmz and felo in ēch wūrd thē spelīng ev thē best ētheritiz, thē jeneral rūl bēīng that givn abuv. Thē spelīng ev such wūrdz az "tobacco, alphabet, legitimate," can be amended without eni niū leterz, simpli bai dreping yūsles leterz and making sūtabl substitiūshonz. Wē spel them tobacco, alfabet, lejitimet. In wūrdz laik calico, fonetic, nachur, histori, inosens, oba, thuro, bero, thē o and u reman unchanjd in thē unacsented silablz.

XIII. But thè mater ev mōst perplecsiti iz thè vauel beför r in thè tūrminal silablz ar, er, ir, or, yr, and ur. Webster sez that thè vauel saundz in thè unacsented silablz ev such wūrdz az "altar, offer, tapir, mirror, zephyr," *coincident* with that ev thè secōnd u in "sulphur." Let

disect this statment. The second u in sulfur iz diferent from the fūrst u, the fūrst being confesedli the niūtral vowel. But wē ār net infōrmd hwether the diferens betwēn thez u's iz in cwentiti, ēr cweliti, ēr bōth. The u in the fūrst silabl iz shōrt u (= u), becōz it iz felod bai a censonant in an acsented silabl. The second u iz slaitli articyulated, and tu detūrmin its cwoliti wē must gō tu its derivativz and faind hwot it iz hwen under acsent in a cōndishun in hwich acsent duz net chanj its cweliti. In sulfurus it iz slait u, and in sulfūrie it iz long iū, its cweliti being unchanjd. The nachural uterans ev sulfur duz net tūrn it intu sulfur, and if personz wil nōt this fact it wil bē a valyuabl gaid in pronunshlashun. Werçester fūrther sez: "The vowelz befōr r in unacsented silablz hav nō perseptibl diferens ev saund." And Smūrt sez that "tha ār cwait indistingwishabl in pronunshlashun." Hwether this indistingwishablnes iz becōz the diferent saundz fōr hwich the ōrganz ār set ār net fuli articyulated ēr becōz the sam saund iz mad fōr ēch, iz net agrēd. Thōz hū hōld that the sam saund iz articyulated dū net agrē on the saund. The yūnifōrm ōbsciūr saund u iz verl ofensiv tu meni, and fōr the prezent the best wē can dū iz, tu regūrd the rezemblans az wun ev wēk articyulashun, felo the prinsipl ev XII abuv, and lēv the vowelz unchanjd.

XIV. In cwentiti the vowelz ār long, mēdium, shōrt and slait. The cwentiti dependz on the stres ev uterans, hwall the cwoliti iz detūrmind bai the pozi-shun ev the ōrganz ev spēch. Wē nōt cweliti bai a definit caracer, net bai a *data-critical m'rk* az the dicshuneriz dū. Hens wē can remand the hol mater ev cwentiti from the sfer ev ōrthograft tu the

sfēr ev presodi. Wè yūz thè macron simpli tu help tu establish thè standard pronunshiaschun, and hwen this iz acemplsht, wè shal banish ēl accents from our pajez az tha ār, in fact, nō pārt ev amended speling. Wè nō that tha mār thè biūti ev thè paj, but tha ar a nesaseri èvil, hwail wè ār in this orthoepical staj ev our wūrķ. Wè shud.gō stil fūrther and remūv thè dot from thè è, i, and j. But wè dū net felo our ōn mēr preferens, but yuz hwet iz cemunli agrēd upōn, and shud gladli adept such imprūvments in alfabet and speling az shal frēm taim tu taim resēv thè saȳcschun ev thè waiz and lūrned men hu hav thè guidans ev this grat refōrm mūvment.

XV. Thār ār fōr diffhēngz cemunli nōted in thè dicshuneriz, viz: leng ī, leng ū, and thè vauel sāundz in haus and seil, and tū vauelz, a and ō, hwich in ōpn acsented silablz hav a diffhēngal vanish. Thè i-vanish ev leng a in ōpn silablz iz jenerali acnelejd, but ēl ār net agrēd az tu thè priur element, hwether it iz shōrt e, or e lenghend, and narod laik uther leng leterz. Webster sez: "Raiterz ār net agrēd az tu thè nachur ev thè radical pārt, sum considering it tu bē thè saund ev shōrt e, hwail utherz asūrt that it iz a distinct thō veri similar element," i.e., leng ē. If thè wūrdz pen and pan ār prolengd, it wil bē found that in pen thè n iz mad centinyuus, hwail thè a in pan can bē prolengd indefinitely and in da (day) an i-vanish iz hūrd hauever leng thè fūrst element iz prolengd. In unacsented silablz ē wil represent this saund veri wel, but in acsented silablz thè old asoshiaschunz ev leng ē ār such that this saund fōr thè prezesēmz tu nēd a separet sain, fōr hwich & a iz jenerall ac-

ted, reprezenting, az it duz, thè i-vanish in its tūrminal pārt. Az tu thè vanish wè cwōt frēm Prezident March's descriptshun ev thè aīdēal alfabet. "Thè jeneral standard ev a grat nashun must bē severli simpl. It can net admit ev thè ever-vāring glaidz and finishez and colorīngz ev fashunabl ōr vulgar artīcyulashun, az lēng az tha ār without significans."

XVI. Lēng o, ōpn and acsented; endz in a slait u-vanish. It iz a saund intermēdiet betwēn ō and ū. In unacsented silablz thè u-vanish iz omited, but cār shud bē takn in such casez that it iz net tūrnd intū u. Wè shud sa tobacco, net tubacu.

XVII. Lēng ĭ iz an acnelejd difthēng. Its elements ār a and i. In uther wurdz this vauel iz a glaid, mad hwail thè ōrganz ev spēch ār pasing frēm thè pozishun fēr a tu thè pozishun fēr i. Thè ōrganz ev spēch chanj pozishun diuring its producshun, nēr can thè saund bē mad nēr prolēngd without making this chanj. Wè reprezent it bai ai, thèz leterz reprezentīng its extrēmz. If a sepatet caracter wūr at ōl nesceseri, *Ā* ū wud shō its trū caracter.

XVIII. Hwet iz trū ev ai iz ōlso trū ev du, it bëing a glaid mad hwail thè ōrganz ār pasing frēm a tu u. It iz thārfōr wel reprezented bai its elements, a and u, hwīch ār blended intū wun saund in our uterans.

XIX. In oi, ē and i ār distīgt vauelz, nēr dū tha blend intū ēch uther sō that ēther obsciūrēz thè uther. Hwet maks *them* a difthēng iz thè fact that tha ār uterd in thè sam cōcrēt mūvmēt ev veis hwīch distīgwishez a silabl frēm an *ūltīmet* element ev spēch. It wud bē az inapropriet ta

represent this diffheng bai a singl character az tu hav speshal sainz fōr silablz.

XX. Wun'ev thè gratest difficultiz in thè niu spelling iz thè rezolushun ev leng *u* (*ü*) az it ocūrz in diferent clasez ev wūrdz. It iz a compaund saund mad up ev thè elements *ū* (*oo*) and *y* ēr *i*. Thè ōnli preper wa tu dēl with it iz tu rezelv it intu its elements and sō represent it. Webster sez: "Hwen *u* (*ü*) beginz a silabl, ēr iz presēded bai eni wun ev thè palatal ēr labial saundz *k*, *g*, *p*, *b*, *f*, *v*, *m*, thè saund ev *y* iz clērli prezūrvd, az in thè wūrdz 'usage, cube, gules, puny, burin, futile, mule.'" Hwen thè *u* (*ü*) iz presēded bai *d*, *t*, *l*, *n*, *s* and *th*, it iz difficult tu uter thè *y*, and hens cārles spēkerz tūrn it intu *ū* (*oo*). It iz no daut ōlmg tu this difficulti ev utering thè *y* ēr *i* element after *d*, *t*, *z*, and *s* in unacsented silablz, that tha ar tūrnd intu *j*, *ch*, *zh* and *sh*. And this shud bē cultivated en acount ev its ēz ev uterans and thè further fact that *j* and *ch* ār net subject tu bē further chanjd. But in acsented silablz, hwen thè *u* (*ü*) iz mēdial, this disolūshun iz best represented bai *iū*. Wē thus distigwish "dew" frōm "do" without tūrning thè fōrmer intu "jew." Dr. Webster regārded this saund az diferent ōnli at thè begining ev a silabl, and hens in such casez wē represent it bai *yu*; hwen mēdial hē regārded it a peciūlyar vauel nērli rezembling ē and *ū* but so much closer az tu bē preperli considerd an elementeri saund. Mr. Webster's pronunshlashun wez diferent frōm thè aprūvd London pronunshlashun, it iz stil thè polait pronunshlashun in Virginia and wel-nōn in New England, and wez thè comun Agglō-Saxon unlauted *u*. Our standard pronunshlashun reze

blz sumhwet thè German umlant ù, yet, òl thingz considerd, iu sèimz thè best mōd ev representing it az a mèdial vauel. Thè i shud bè omited after thè censonants l, r, j, ch, s, z, sh, zh and y.

XXI. Thè unmārcet vauelz present wun ev thè chēf diffcultiz ev pronunshiashun, and thār iz a nesesiti tu detūrmin thār cwēliti fer thè pūrposez ev fonetic spelimg. Thè cōllimg ev leterz bai thār Inglish namz haz, nō dout tu a veri grāt extent, cōzd this difficulti hwich thè dicshuneriz fal tu selv. After lōng and cārful studi, thè TēCHER haz adepted thè feloimg rūlz az giving thè pronunshiashun ev thè best ētheritiz. Hwen eni wūrd iz faund tu bè an ecsepshun, wè felo thè ētheritiz. It must bè understud that thèz rūlz ār intended ōnli fer wūrdz ēbsciūrli pronaunst, net fēr such az ār fōrsibli and distigctli pronaunst, az meni unacsented silablz ār. Fēr instans, thè fūrst vauel in aērial iz az distigct az in aerat; in articyulat az in ārticl.

1. A cōstitiūting ēr ending an unacsented fainal silabl, shud bè represented bai a; az, sofa, Seneca, a man, America. Thè rūl hēr givn gōz az fār ōnli az Webster and Worcester agrē. Az it haz bin vōted at a mēting ev thè Spelling Refōrm Asoshiashun tu hōld thè ōld taips until thè rēznz fōr chanj ār desaisiv, wè ār net prepārd tu yūz a at thè end ev ēl unacsented silablz. Ev this vauel at thè end ev unacsented silablz, Webster sez, p. XLIV §44: "Hēr a haz prōperli d brēf saund ev Italyan a;" yet hē never mārks such vauelz, [sè alfa, alfabet, abaca] but sez that, "in familiar spēch this vauel iz ēlwaz slaited and ēbsciūrd."

2. In an unacsented silabl, ēbsciūr a befōr r fēlod bai c

vāuel, ōr a fēlod bai a cōnsonant and miūt e, shud bē represented bai e; az, dicshuneri, prefes, vilej. But under secun-deri acsent vūrbz in ate hav a; az, calciulat, dedicat, regyulat. Ai iz e in wūrdz laik mentan, surten, sed, etç.

3. E cōstitiutlūg ōr ending an unacsented silabl befor a cōnsonant ōr cūming befōr r in an unacsented silabl remanz unchanjd; az, sosaetli, event, emōshun, leter, everi, resēv, prefūr.

4. In thē namz ev mineralz ending in ite, ōr hwen cōstitiūtūg ōr ending thē unacsented inishal silablz i, bi, chi, cli, cri, pri, tri, i shud bē ai; az aidēa, baieloji, craitērion, crisolait, stēatait. A fiū uther wūrdz in hwich i iz fēlod bai a cōnsonant and miūt e, hav i chanjd tu ai; az, jentail, ārcailv, cecatrais. At thē end ev uther unacsented silablz i haz its brēf sound; az, filosofi, divizibiliti, direct.

5. O cōstitiūtūg ōr ending an unacsented silabl, haz its lōng sound slaitli abrēviated and iz without thē u-vanish; az, opinyun, matrimoni, premisori.

6. Difhēngal u, thē lōng u ev thē dicshuneriz, shud bē ritn YU at thē begining ev wūrdz, hwether simpl ōr cōmpounded and begining a silabl ōr fēloing an acsent,—in uther plasez IU; az yunait, disyunait, manyual, miuzic miuzishan. But hwen it iz unacsented and presēded bai d, t, ōr s, thē i ev thē iu yunaitz with thēz cōnsonants tu fērm j, ch, sh, and zh; az, ejucat, nachur, senshuus, vizhual.

Thē jeneral rūl fōr vauelz at the end ev silablz is: a, e, i, o, u, ending an acsented silabl hav thār nam sound; az, famus, mēdium, cruaisis, mōshun, ciūtici, and at thē end ev unacsented silablz tha ār a, e, i, o, and u.

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BULETIN

OV DHI

SPELING REFORM ASOSHIĒSHUN.

No. 16.

1880.

[From dhi Prosīdingz ov dhi Nashunal Ejuceshunal Asoshieshun.]

DHI SPELING REFORM ACOMPLISHT.

Opening Adres deliverd at dhi Anyual Miting, Julai 15, 1880, bai
F. A. MARCH, LL.D.

Wi cōngratyulat ich udher tu-da upen anudher hapi yir.

At our last anivūrseri dhi sumeri ev events hwich wēz mad in dhi opening adres, wēz much ecypaid widh discushunz, rezolūshunz, petishunz, memorialz and udher preliminareri wūrc. Opinyunz in favor ev refōrm wūr red frēm ētheritiz in fileloji, ejucashun and soshal sciens, Max Mueller, Dr. Morris, Bishop Thirlwall, Profesorz Hadley, Whitney, and Trumbull, Charles Sumner, W. E. Gladstone, and udherz. An acunt wēz givn ev acshun in favor ev dhi refōrm bai dhi Nashunal Yūnyun ev Elementeri Tīcherz, reprezenting 10,000 tīcherz in Ingland and Walz; and ev dhi acshun ev dhi American Filolejical Asoshiashun, dhi American Institiūt ev Instrucshun, dhi Nashunal Ejucashunal Asoshiashun, dhi Depārtment ev Public Instrucshun at Shicāgo, dhi Stat Tīcherz' Asoshiashunz ev Masachusets, Nīu Yōrk. Pensilvania, Ohio, Nīu Jōrzi, Ilīnōi, Qiowa, Mishigan, Wisconsin, Misūri, Virginia. Acshun ev dhi Stat lejislachurz wēz descalbd, ēlso dhi reports ev dhār Comitiz.

Varīus publicashunz in favor ev dhi refōrm wūr ēlso men-shund, buks, ārticlz in magazīnz and dhi transacshunz ev lūrned Sosaletiz, and mor nūmerus contrībiūshunz tu ēnlūzpapērz and ejucashunal jūrnalz. In viū ev ēl dhīz, it dhen declārd dhat dhi ār wēz ful ev hōp. Wi wūr ov

hauerver, tu cōfēs dhat wī cud net bost ev much sucsees in bringing imprūvd speling intu acchual yūs.

Dhis yīr, dhi senter ev interest haz bin in dhi niū speling ev dhi niūzpapertz and piriedicalz.

Dhis Asoshiashun haz an "alfabet ev dhi fūchur" widh niū taips, fēr enthūziasts tu yūz, and az a gald fēr ēl refōrmerz. Dhi ilustrashun and prepagashun ev dhis alfabet haz bin a prominent pūrpos in dhi *Fonetic Ticher*, hwich haz bin publisht munthli bai aur Director fēr dhi South west, Mr. T. R. Vicrōi, ev St. Luis, and haz an extensiv surciulashun. Wī at tu help it ēl wī can.

It haz ēlso several stajez ev speling widhaut niū taips.

1. Beginerz ar advaizd tu drōp dhi fainal *e* ev *hav*, *giv* and *liv*.

2. Dhen dha can trai dhi elevn wūrdz ev dhi Filolejical Asoshiashun; *ar*, *catalog*, *definit*, *gard*, *giv*, *hav*, *infinīt*, *liv*, *tho*, *thru*, *wisht*.

3. Fēr dhi strōnger in dhi fath, dhār ar dhi "faiv niū rūlz."

[1.] Omit *a* frōm dhi daigraf *ea* hwen pronounst az *e* shōrt, az in hed, helth, etc. [2.] Omit saillant fainal *e* after a shōrt vauel, az in *hav*, *giv*, etc. [3.] Rait *f* fēr *ph* in such wūrdz az alfabet, fantom, etc. [4.] Hwen a wūrd endz widh a dubl leter, omit dhi last, az in shal, clif, eg, etc. [5.] Chanj *ed* fainal tu *t* hwār it haz dhi sound ev *t*, az in lasht, imprest, etc.

And wī hav ūrjd everi bēdi tu begin at eni pōint dha pliz, and go az fār az dha pliz, if dha onli go in dhi rait direcshun.

Dhiz recomendashunz hav bin resīvd widh speshal favor bai printerz, and dha wūr ūrli adepte bai dhi ōrganz ev dhi craft. Dhi Electrotaipe, ev Shicōgo, led dhi wa widh dhi elevn wūrdz. Dhi Laibreri Jūrnal wez in dhi van widh "cat-alog." Meni ev dhi niūzpapertz frili admited ocashunal artcleiz in amended spelingz ev varius caindz, but dhi grat pepyular jūrnalz nachurali hezitated tu adepte eni niū spelingz az dhār ōn, hauerver strōngli dha advocated refōrm in jeneral.

Dhi Shicōgo Tribyun wez dhi fūrst tu mac dhi plunj. Ōr hi secund da ev September in dhi yīr ev aur Lōrd wv

thauzand at hundred and seventi-nain, dhis grat progresiv representativ paper ev dhi Nörthwest apird in amended spel-ing thruaut.

Ön dhi 17th ev September dhi Hom Jörnäl ev Niu Yörk also apird spelt thruaut in acördans widh dhi föloing rülz :

1. Drep *ue* at dhi end ev wördz laic dialogue, catalogue hwär dhi prisiding vauel iz shört. Dhus spel pedagog, demagog, epilog, sinagog, etc. Chanj tongue fär tung. Hwen dhi prisiding vauel iz löng az in prorogue, vogue, disembogue, rogue, retan fainäl leterz az at prezent.
2. Drep fainäl *e* in such wördz az definite, infinite, favorite, hwär dhi prisiding vauel iz shört. Dhus spel opposit, preterit, hipocrit, requisit, etc. Hwen dhi prisiding vauel iz löng, az in polite, finite, invite, unite, retan prezent förm unchanjd.
3. Drep fainäl *ts* in wördz laic quartette, coquette, cigarette. Dhus spel cigaret, roset, epaulet, vedet, gazet, etc.
4. Drep fainäl *me* in wördz laic programme. Dhus spel program, oriflam, gram, etc.
5. Chanj *ph* fär *f* in wördz laic phantom, telegraph, phase. Dhus spel alfabet, paragraf, filosofy, fonetic, fotograf, etc.

P. S. No chanj in præper namz.

Dhi Yutica Herald, dhi Tolido Blad, dhi Burlington Hëkal, dhi Anthoni Jörnäl, and meni udher niüzpaperz hav felod. Besoidz dhoz hū proclam dhär chanjez, sum är cwaletli chanjing i flū wördz ('Tu apiz dhär scolarli cönsheñs, al supoz) and seing nuthing. Dhus dhi Springfield Republican ev Masachüsets yüzez *etiquet* and *program*. Öv dhi niüzpaperz and piri-ödicälz hwich admit particyular ärticelz in imprüvd spelling shud bī menshünd dhi Independent ev Niu Yörk, hwich haz böt niū toips and iz printing a sirliz ev ärticelz widh dhem frem eminent filelojists, dhi Niu Ingland Jörnäl ev Ejucashun and dhi Princeton Revü. It iz sed dhat mor dhan 200 jörnäl and piriödicälz in dhis cuntrī är inovating mor är les. If al fujd bai dhi paperz hwich al sī, al shud ges dhat. Al el dhi daisis ev our enthüzlatic and indefatigabl

tor fôr dhi Southwest, espeshali Misûri, Kansas, and OArkansê, had mended dhâr waz ; but dhâr âr meni paperz hwich ai dû net sî, and ai fîr dha ma bî, sum ev dhem, going on in dhi old wa in spoit ev dhi Fonetic Tîcher. Dhi Pres Asoshiashunz in Misûri and OArkansê sho a loivli interest in dhi mater. Dha hav elocwent spîchez and admirabl rezolûshunz at dhâr Cenvenshunz. Dhi Misûri Pres Asoshiashun, mîting at Sedalia in May, yunanimusli post dhi feloling rezolûshunz eferd bai J. B. Mûrwin :

Hwâraz, dhi iregyularitiz ev Inglish êrthegrafi âr a grat obstacl tu dhi progres ev dhi pípl, and

Hwâraz, Sailent leterz alon ad about 25 pur sent. tu dhi cost ev êl ratting and printing ; and

Hwâraz, Editorz, statsmen, scolarz, tîcherz and filanthropists thruat dhi Inglish-spiking wûrld âr macing ûrnest efforts tu amend and simplifai our spelling ; dhârfor bî it rezelv'd bai dhi Misûri editorz in cenvenshun asembld ; dhat

1. Wi hârtli simpathaiz widh dhi ûrnest efforts hwich âr bîling put forth tu simplifai Inglish êrthegrafi.

2. Wi wil ad and encûrej wun anudher tu begin and mak such grajual chaujez in spelling az âr recomended bai dhi American Filolejical Asoshiashun and dhi Speling Refêrm Asoshiashun.

Dhus fâr dhi editorz ev dhi refêrming paperz ecspres dhemselvz az satisfaid widh dhi wa in hwich dhâr riderz tek dhi mater. Dhi Hom Jûrnal mad dhi boldest venchur. It iz dhi American jûrnal ev sosaieti, dhi ôrgan and manyual ev hai laif. Its chanjez clip dhi curent tecnicallitiz ev eticoet and esthetics. Yet dhi editor sez dhat net wun ev hiz riderz haz ever ritn "Step mai paper ôr step dhat spelling." Diûring dhi hol ecspêriment hi haz resîvd but tû protests, and both wûr anenimus ; hwail ecspreshunz ev aprobashun hav bin fricwent and côrjal. Dhi editor fainali sent aut a sûroyular asking fôr opinyunz, and printed a brêdsaid ev respensez in favor ev dhi mûvment from 100 reprezentativ men, 25 prezênts ev lîding côlejez eminent poets, prêcherz, salentists and hi laic. Dhi Shicêgo Tribyun haz publiht a similar brê

sald, and dhi Niū Ingland Jūrnal ev Ejucashun haz printed colecshunz ev opinyunz from its riderz in several ev its ishuz. A grat ara ev etheritativ namz haz dhus bin presented tu dhi public az favoring sum sērt ev refērm. A fiū opinyunz ar advōrs tu dhis, dhat, ēr dhi udher particyular chanj supozd tu bī nīr dhi hārts ev dhi refērmerz. Dhat iz a mater ev cors. Wun ēr tū ar ded agenst ēl atempts tu imprūv dhi spēling: “Langwej iz a groth,” dha sa, az if dhat wūr a spel tu wōrn of refērmerz.

“Langwej iz a groth” laic vejetablz, ai supoz, ēr children. Ar thingz dhat gro net tu bī cultivated, ēr ejucated? Dhi fūrst wūrķ ev man wez tu dres a gārden, and hiz halest wūre ever sins haz bin tu shap dhi groth ev hiz children. Groth and culchur can net shurli bī disoshiated in dhi maindz ev American ticherz, hwārever els sentiments ev matirialistic evolūshun ma preval. But hwet if langwej iz a groth? Dhi vizibl salnz fōr it, dhi ritn wūrdz, ar a diferent mater. Dha ar invenshunz, if ever enithing wēz; and hav bin and ar tu bī imprūvd, laic ēl labor-saving mashineri.

Sum wun also repits dhi flaut dhat aur grat-grat-grandchildren ma posibl sī amended spelling in yūs. In so fār az dhat iz a *bon mot* wī ēl small at it. It iz ungrashus tu widhhold dhat respens hwen eni wun iz willing tu bī funi fōr us. But hwen it iz repited az dho dhār wūr sens tu it, wun canet help remembering dhat in so fār az it sujests dhat spēling iz net imprūving, and can net bī at wuns imprūvd, dhat sujeschun iz holi basles; thauzandz ev wūrdz hav bin imprūvd in aur da. In so fār az it remaindz us dhat perfect spēling iz a remot posibiliti, wī ma remember dhat in dhat respect it iz laic pūrfect stīm enjinz, ēr eni udher pūrfect mashineri. Dhi difficulti ev macing thingz pūrfect iz no rīzn fōr net imprūving dhem az fast az wī can.

Dhiz mūvmnts in dhi pīriodicals hwich hav adopted imprūvd spellingz, hav nachurali bin acumpanid widh movement and discushun. Meni ebl articlz in favor ev dhi fōrm hav apird, tū in Scribner's Monthli, bal Prof. L. bary ev Yal, udherz in dhi Atlantic Monthli, dhi In-

dent, dhi Shicāgo Inter-Oshan, Intīrior and Alcians dhi St. Louis Fonetic Tīcher and elshwār. Dhi mūvmēt in our Cōlejez iz hārdli infīrior in hopfulness tu dhat in dhi pres. Dhi histori ev dhi refōrm at dhi Yunivērsiti ev Ilīnōi and at Oberlin sīmz tu indicat dhat hwārever eni ūrnest member ev a gud Western Cōlej wil tac dhi līd dhi hol institiūshun substanshali wil join dhi refōrm. If dhis bī trū, veri grāt prōgres can hārdli bī lōng delad.

Dhi memorial tu Cōngres ascīng fōr a Comishun, haz resīvd favorabl cōsiderashun frēm dhi Comitī en Ejucashun and Labor. April 27, 1880, Mr. Ballou, ev Rōd Ciland, reported

A BIL

Tu cōstitiūt a Comishun tu report en dhi amendment ev dhi ōrthografti ev public decyuments.

Bī it enacted bai dhi Senet and Haus ev Reprēzentativz ev dhi Yūnaited Stats ev America in Cōngres asembled, Dhat a comishun iz hīrbai cōstitiūted, tu cōsist ev sevn comishun-erz tu bī apōinted bai dhi Prezident, hū shal egzamin dhi ōrthografti yūzd in dhi public decyuments and in dhi public scūlz ev dhi District ev Columbia, and incwair hau much its defects incris dhi cōst ev dhi public printing, and hau fār dha ār an impediment tu dhi acwizishun ev dhi Inglish langweĵ, and tu ejucashun, and incwair hwēt amendments in ōrthografti, if eni, ma bī izili introduiūt intu dhi public decyuments and dhi scūlz ev dhi District ev Columbia, and acsepted in egzaminashunz fōr dhi sivil sūrvīs, and hwedher it iz ecspīdient tu mūv dhi Guvernment ev Grāt Briten tu yūnait in cōstitūting a jōint comishun tu cōsider such amendments; and dhi Comishun shal report tu Cōngres at its necst seshun.

[April 27, 1880.—Red twais, refōrd tu dhi Comitī en Ejucashun and Labor, and ōrderd tu bī printed.]

Dhi Comitī reported in favor ev dhi bil, and dha ecspres cōnfīdens dhat it wil pas hwen it shal bī richt.

In Ingland, much haz bin dun dīring dhi yīr. Wi frēm Mr. Jonz, our Vais-Prezident at Liverpūl, dhat a

"Inglish Speling Reförm Asoshiaschun" iz nau fuli örganaisd and haz grat namz among its eßserz and suporterz. Among dhem är Gladston, Därwin, Tenison, dhi Lord Bishop ev Exeter, Sör Charlz Rid, Chärman ev dhi Scül Börd fër London, sundri memberz ev Pärlament, profesorz in dhi Yuni-vürsitiz ev Öxford and Cambrij, dhi prezident and ex-prezidents ev dhi Filolejical Sosaleti. Dha hav dhär salarid Secreteri, and ishu a monthli jürnal. Dha hop tu eßtan spidi acshun fröm Pärlament.

Min talm dhi Filolejical Sosaleti ev Ingland haz at last taen up dhi reförm in örneßt. It haz apeinted a comiti tu report a list ev wördz in hwich etimoloji är histori iz fälsifaid är eß-sclürd bai dhi prezent speling. Dhis list wil centen sum thauzandz ev wördz, dha ea. Wi shal hav it in a fiü wice. Dhi Comitl ev dhi American Filolejical Asoshiaschun wil dautles bi abl tu apröv it, and so tu ad a lärj number ev niü wördz tu dhi elevn ölredi recomendad bai dhem fër imidiet yüs.

Dhi prägres ev dhi reförm iz rapid. Thri är for yirz ago aur scolarz stept tu dhi front tu mit ridiciül and perhaps reproch in behäf ev dhi remot fiüchur. Last yir wi tæct ev hop. Dhis yir it iz a sirius eweschun hwedher imidiet diüti duz net pres härd upen us. Wi hav bin content tu bi a lüs Asoshiaschun, miting nau and dhen and razing aur vöisez, craiing in dhi wildernes. Öt wi net tu atempt mör, tu rez muni tu put lecchurerz in dhi fild, tu sürciulat decyuments, tu suport a jürnal and a secreteri?

It eimz az dho dhi rait man and dhi rait sört ev a jürnal maitdū wunderz fër dhi reförm.

But dhi fild in hwich dhär iz most örjent nid ev würcerz, iz dhi infant scül, dhi praimerl scül. Milyunz ev children är lörning tu rid and traing tu lörn tu spel in dhi old we. Dhär craiz feloing dhi sun lalc dhi drumbit ev hwich Mr. Webster haz told us, ensürel dhi örth widh an unbrocn strein ev ö walz ev Inglish children.

OFISERZ OV DHI SPELING REFORM ASOSHIGSHUN.

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[Prepārd bai L. Lalēn, Conneaut, O.]

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